

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Meridian Transportation Commission**  
**August 3, 2020**

**Virtual Meeting Information**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82728806452>

Or join by phone: Dial 253-215-8782 and enter Webinar ID: 827 2880 6452

**Roll Call**

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

<u>  x  </u> David Ballard	<u>  x  </u> Stephen Lewis	<u>  x  </u> Shawn Martin (ex-officio arrived late via Zoom)
<u>  x  </u> David McKinney (via-zoom)	<u>  x  </u> Jared Smith (via zoom)	<u>  x  </u> Toni Tisdale (ex-officio-via Zoom)
<u>  x  </u> Ryan Lancaster	<u>  x  </u> Tom LeClaire	<u>  x  </u> Ian Updike (ex-officio-via zoom)
<u>  x  </u> Walter Steed	<u>  x  </u> Joseph Leckie	<u>  x  </u> Alissa Taysom (ex-officio via Zoom)
<u>  x  </u> Tracy Hopkins	<u>  x  </u> Luke Cavener (ex-officio arrived late via Zoom)	<u>  x  </u> Jayme Coonce for Justin Price (ex-officio)

Others Present: Emily Kane, Sgt. Brandon Frasier, Miranda Carson, and Caleb Hood

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Chairman Ballard called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Lancaster motioned to adopt as written; second by Commissioner Hopkins - all-ayes – motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

I. July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Chairman Ballard asked for any corrections to the July 6, 2020 minutes. A question was asked by Commission Lewis regarding clarification on median damage in downtown by deliveries on page 4 of the packet. No corrections were noted and Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve; second by Commissioner Hopkins – all ayes - motion carried.

**Old Business Items**

**2. Transportation Projects Update (Caleb Hood)**

Prior to the Transportation Projects Update, Mr. Hood gave a brief introduction of Miranda Carson who joined the City of Meridian Planning Department, as the Comprehensive Associate Coordination Planner. Mr. Hood did a quick review of the projects, which begins on page 8 of the packet, and highlighted noteworthy changes, but did not read all the updates. Mr. Hood is

happy to review any items. (Clarity of this part of the recording was unrecognizable so details are limited in the minutes.)

Mr. Hood stood for question; none took place. Chairman Ballard thanked Miranda for attending and welcomed her back, albeit in a different capacity.

### **3. Subcommittee update on the Future Role of the Transportation Commission (Tom LeClaire)**

Mr. LeClaire provided a brief update from the July 8 subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee is recommending that instead of one subcommittee, that 3-three member subcommittees be formed to tackle three major areas of focus.

- Street Standards would evaluate street standards throughout the City including safe routes to schools and major capital projects with ITD and ACHD.
- Ordinance Review would provide guidance on technical feedback and terminology definition and clarification in the codes and laws.
- Development Application Review would providing feedback to the Planning Department on proposed development without slowing the process down.

It was also suggested that each of three subcommittees meet the hour prior to the monthly Transportation Commission meeting at City Hall in a workshop environment. Timing and logistical considerations for room locations still need to be determined.

Mr. LeClaire stood for questions. A robust discussion took place with the Commission and advice from Counsel regarding the proposal from Mr. LeClaire and needed next steps. Mr. Hood will follow-up with Legal Counsel on how to proceed on framework in forming the proposed subcommittees.

### **New Business Items**

#### **4. Meridian Police Department Update (Sgt. Brandon Frasier)**

Sgt. Frasier provided a brief update to the Commission that MPD is half-way through the seatbelt enforcement effort. Meridian ranks in the greater than 90% of people that are wearing seatbelts.

#### **5. Golf Carts and All-Terrain Vehicles on Public Streets (Sgt. Brandon Frasier)**

Mr. Hood introduced the topic by referencing the memo that he wrote and included in the packet and provided a summary on the two areas within Meridian where golf carts are currently allowed on roadways (a section of Cherry Lane and at the Touchmark retirement community). (Sgt. Frasier was listed as the presenter of this item for his input/recommendations.) Mr. Hood also noted that he has received three different emails from citizens regarding this topic. Mr. Hood recommended that if the Commission wanted to suggest any action to City Council that they discuss at this meeting while Sgt. Arnold was present. A lengthy robust discussion was had regarding the below topics:

- The 2013 City Ordinance referenced only golf carts and not UTV/ATVs. The question was raised if MPD was still supportive of this ordinance the way it is written. At the time the City Ordinance was proposed, in 2013, there was some conflict with State Statute language, so only golf carts was addressed in the City Ordinance.
- State law designates places you cannot ride UTVs, but local Law Enforcement is left to interpret and enforce.
- Questions were raised and discussed about ACHD roads and the definition of controlled access highways as it relates to golf-carts, UTVs/ATVs.
- Sgt. Frasier explained that this is not one issue but a is a fairly complex legal analysis of several issues being merged together so MPD and the community know the terms and conditions of where/when non-street legal compliant vehicles can operate.
- Another topic that was robustly discussed is the speed of the vehicle being driven and how that relates to its use within a neighborhood or to the adjacent commercial business, i.e. the gas station/mini-market, Dutch Bros. and being driven on Linder. Golf carts are typically much slower than UTV/ATV and are not a street legal vehicle with appropriate safety equipment, and are often times driven by unlicensed drivers.
- The discussion concluded with Sgt. Frasier outlining some options for further discussion and information from partner agencies, including ACHD, ITD, as well as staff.
- Commissioner Lancaster suggested that this topic be one of the first items for the subcommittees to address and bring back to the Commission to propose a recommendation to Council on how to address this very complex issue.
- Mr. Hood commented by reading the by-laws for subcommittees and participation. Additional discussion took place with advisement from Ms. Kane on further actions prior to next meeting and how to proceed prior to the next Transportation Commission meeting.

## **6. US 20/26 Cross-Section and Residential Noise Mitigation Request**

(Prior to Mr. Walker's presentation Commissioner Lancaster recused himself from the discussion.) Mr. Walker addressed the Commission on his concerns, as well as his neighbor Mr. Harris for noise abatement on US 20/26 and it being out of compliance with City Ordinance.

Mr. Walker referenced the ITD sound study, where he lives, and that the noise levels are excessive, yet the abatement barrier is not currently under construction. Mr. Walker is inquiring when the required barrier will be built and/or when the City of Meridian will enforce the City Ordinance.

Mr. Hood will do some additional research regarding the Bainbridge project, the city code, and provide a staff analysis as it relates to the noise abatement barrier. Mr. Hood will work with Mr. Walker to better understand the issue, and outline the options for resolution and work with City Code Enforcement as necessary.

Chairman Ballard thanked Mr. Walker for his attendance.

## **7. Eagle, Amity to Victory Design**

Steven Yearsley addressed the Commission on this topic and gave a brief summary on his background. Mr. Yearsley is a Civil Engineer, who has sat on the Transportation Commission and the Meridian Planning & Zoning Commission so he is very familiar with the process as it relates to a design of a project, addressing community concern, and ultimate review & approval of any community project.

Mr. Yearsley is part of the Tuscan HOA and thanked the Commission for allowing him to address concerns regarding the multi-use pedestrian crossings on the Eagle Road project. Mr. Yearsley recalled that ACHD held a public engagement meeting a few years back and presented two proposals, which were in the packet and he reviewed with the Commission.

Questions of Mr. Yearsley were asked, and discussion took place amongst the Commission as well as present staff. Staff expressed that concerns were raised to ACHD, through meetings and written comments throughout the analysis/development process.

A motion at 5:28 to extend the meeting to 5:45 was made by Commissioner Lancaster; second by Commissioner Hopkins – all ayes – motion passed and meeting time extended.

Further discussion took place and Mr. Yearsley requested that the Commission recommend that a letter be sent from City Council to ACHD to reevaluate those crossings.

A motion by, Commissioner Lewis, requesting a letter be sent from City Council to ACHD to re-look at the Pedestrian Crossing on the Eagle Road project; second by Commissioner Hopkins - 5 ayes (Lewis, Hopkins, LeClair, Smith and Leckie) 4 nays (Lancaster, Ballard, Steed and McKinney) - motion passed.

Business was not concluded and at 5:47 a motion from Commissioner Lewis to extend the meeting to 6pm was made; second by Commissioner LeClair – all ayes – motion passed and meeting time was extended.

## **8. ACHD DRAFT 2021-2025 Integrated Five-Year Work Plan**

Mr. Hood, as a time sensitive issue, noted that ACHD requested that comments be provided by August 21<sup>st</sup> for finalization by October 1, 2020. In the interest of time, Mr. Hood offered his comment that year over year there was nothing suspicious or unusual in the Integrated Five-Year Work Plan (IFYWP), but he did want to daylight the issue of the Ten Mile corridor south I-84 and the discussions he had with the Mayor.

A motion by Commissioner Lancaster was made to support the IFYWP as recommended, second by Commissioner Lewis – 8 ayes, 1 – nay – motion carried.

## **9. September Meeting Status**

Chairman Ballard opened the topic; discussion took place and it was decided that a normal meeting on September 14, 2020 would take place, due to the Labor Day holiday.

**10. Staff Communications (C. Hood)**

Mr. Hood referenced the included staff communications memo and stood for any questions.

Discussion on the appointment to the ACHD Capital Improvement Citizen Advisory Committee role that Chairman Ballard holds took place. Chairman Ballard apologized to the City he has not had the time to devote to that group. Mr. Hood will put forth the names of, Mr. Steed and Mr. LeClaire, to the Mayor, as potential replacements and asked both Commissioner's for their resumes to provide with the nomination from the Mayor to ACHD.

Due to the expiration of the second extended meeting time, Future Meeting Topics were not discussed and a call for adjournment was made.

**Future Meeting Topics**

- 11. Harvest Transit Service**
- 12. Signs in City Ordinances**
- 13. Downtown Alleyways (OCT)**
- 14. The Comprehensive Plan and Master Mobility Map Components**
- 15. Main/King Crosswalk**

**Next Meeting Date: September 14, 2020**

**Adjourn**

A motion by Commissioner Lewis to adjourn; no second. Meeting adjourned at 6:02p.m.

(AUDIO RECORDING AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID BALLARD, CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

ATTEST:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE