

Meeting Minutes
Meridian Transportation Commission
November 1, 2021

Virtual Meeting Information

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81023239736>

Or join by phone: Dial 669-900-6833 and enter Webinar ID: 81023239736

(Due to audio issues the meeting was called to order late at approximately 3:47 p.m.; and roll was taken. The Zoom portion of the meeting began as scheduled)

<u> </u> Walter Steed	<u> </u> Stephen Lewis	<u> </u> Shawn Martin (Ex-Officio-ACHD) (via zoom)
<u> </u> David Ballard	<u> </u> Jared Smith (via zoom)	<u> </u> Toni Tisdale (Ex-Officio-COMPASS) (via zoom)
<u> </u> Ryan Lancaster	<u> </u> Zachary Shoemaker	<u> </u> RD Huntley (Ex-Officio-WASD)
<u> </u> Tom LeClaire (via-zoom)	<u> </u> Joseph Leckie	<u> </u> Alissa Taysom (Ex-Officio VRT) (via zoom)
<u> </u> Tracy Hopkins	<u> </u> Luke Cavener, (Ex-Officio)	<u> </u> Justin Price (Ex-Officio ITD) (via zoom)

Others Present: T. Baird, M. Carson, Lt. B. Frasier, Sgt. Dance, C. Hood

Adoption of the Agenda

Prior to the motion to adopt, Chairman Steed requested that item 8 (ACHD-CICAC) be removed from the agenda as the City Attorney's office and ACHD are in discussion on the topic. The topic will be postponed until the December meeting.

A motion by Commissioner Lancaster to adopt the amended agenda was made; second by Commissioner Lewis – all ayes – motion passed.

I. Approval of October 4th, 2021 meeting minutes

Chairman Steed called for any corrections, comments or needed changes to the October 4th Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Lancaster noted the needed changes to the Roll Call section to reflect the he and Commissioner Lewis along with Sgt. Frasier were not in attendance. Additionally, Commissioner LeClaire and Commissioner Shoemaker were in attendance via zoom.

Chairman Steed also noted that on page 3 under Staff Communications that he as well as Councilman Cavener provided commentary on the Compass School traffic item.

Commissioner Ballard made a general inquire to City Counsel regarding outside research and/or discussion that is brought to the Commission and if there is any conflict as it relates to the public record. Ted Baird responded, but his audible response was not captured through the zoom recording. No other discussion took place and a motion was made by Commissioner Hopkins to

adopt the October 4th minutes as amended; second by Commissioner Ballard – all ayes- motion passed.

Prior to continuing with Old Business Chairman Steed requested of the Commission to move up item 4 under New Business and the introduction of Sgt. Dance as the Commission's new Police Liaison representative.

Chairman Steed acknowledged, newly promoted, Lt. Frasier and asked him to introduce Sgt. Dance. Sgt. Dance provided a brief introduction of himself.

Old Business Items

2. Transportation Projects Update (M. Carson)

Ms. Carson addressed the Commission and noted that new items are in bold. Ms. Carson will highlight a few of the notable items and stand for questions at the end.

Ms. Carson began with the ACHD IFYWP and noted that the public partner comments period is open right now. Comments can be submitted directly to ACHD through the link in the packet projects@achdidaho.org or the Commission may choose to submit their recommended comments to City Council for submission to ACHD. The revised draft was provided to Ms. Carson earlier today. Ms. Carson opened the revised draft that was adopted at the ACHD meeting September 23rd and highlighted some of the changes in that document. Items in red were bumped out further, items in blue were moved forward and there were 2 items removed from programming. The most notable change was the Eagle to Overland item that was removed from programming altogether. Ms. Carson will forward the spreadsheet to the Commission after the meeting. Ms. Carson asked the Commission to review the updated draft and if there are any concerns to open discussion to formulate the comments the Commission wants to send to City Council, for an official position to be sent to ACHD. It's Ms. Carson's understanding that the revisions were due to budgetary shortfalls. Discussion was opened and had. Chairman Steed requested that the Commission have time to study the document and then provide comments. The Commission has until November 15th to submit comments directly to ACHD or send their comments to Miranda, so they can be compiled and sent to ACHD, by the 15th.

It was suggested that the subcommittee review the revised ACHD draft and formulate a synopsis to send to the Transportation Commission and/or City Council. Due to noticing requirements the earliest the subcommittee could meet would be between November 8th – 10th. If any Commissioners would like to send comments to the subcommittee, those should first be sent to Ms. Carson who will compile them and send to the subcommittee. Ms. Carson will notify the full Commission on the date of the subcommittee meeting and work back from that date to get any comments from the full Commission, to forward to the subcommittee prior to their meeting. In the interest of time, the subcommittee Chair Commissioner Smith has sent an invite to the subcommittee members.

Ms. Carson continued with the next item on the Transportation Projects update of the Linder Road overpass. The RFQ for design is open and responses are being accepted.

On Page 8, Ms. Carson highlighted the Ten Mile Road, Victory to Overland and Ten Mile/Victory Roundabout is going through a redesign for one-way bike facilities behind the back of curb.

On the bottom of page 9 Ms. Carson noted the Ustick, Ten Mile to Linder project and that center medians are being planned as part of the project.

Ms. Carson concluded by noting the Amity Rd and Locust Grove Rd Signal, which ACHD was planning to construct an interim solution is now back on with a full ultimate design of both a roundabout and signal. In addition, sidewalks or a planned pathway feature will connect to Mary McPherson Elementary.

Ms. Carson stood for questions, none took place.

New Business Items

3. Valley Regional Transit Service Update (A. Taysom)

Ms. Taysom presented instead of Mr. Hunt. Ms. Taysom reviewed the FY2021 Ridership numbers in 3 areas:

- Fixed Route Ridership
- Harvest Transit
- VA Shuttle

Ms. Taysom began by sharing her presentation online and then reviewed the data starting with the Fixed Route Ridership program and the results from 2021. Currently there are 3 existing fixed routes.

- 30 Pine (which has been delayed due to Covid)
- 40 Nampa Express
- 42 Happy Day Transit Center to Towne Square Mall.

Ridership has increased in the month of September, with an overall increase of 14%. Routes 40 & 42 collectively have increase 23% with a 20% of the stops being Meridian stops. Ridership is being closely monitored to determine the new launch date for 30 Pine. There was a decrease in ridership between FY20 and FY21, attributable to the Covid pandemic.

VRT also has 3 specialized services

- Harvest Transit – increased ridership with a total of
- Meridian VA Shuttle
- Rides 2 Wellness

Ms. Taysom reviewed the 3 specialized service route ridership information and shared relative commentary on those programs. There has been a slight increase in VRT ridership from FY20 to FY21. The Meridian VA Shuttle service launched in May of 2021 and year to date have had 66 total trips. Ridership is being monitored closely for all programs to determine long-term growth.

Ms. Taysom concluded her presentation and stood for questions, which took place. Commissioner Ballard inquired about long-term plans for bringing on new equipment and Chairman Steed inquired about what advertising efforts are occurring for the VA Shuttle service.

4. Introduction of New Traffic Sergeant (Chairman Steed)

Moved up to before Old Business to allow Lt. Frasier to depart as needed.

5. Meridian Police Department – (Sgt. J. Dance)

Item skipped as introduction took place prior to Old Business and the Sergeant was called away.

6. Chinden Access West of Hwy 16 (M. Carson)

Ms. Carson directed the Commission's attention to the memo on page 16 of the packet. Ms. Carson provided a high-level summary of that memo and ITD's request for input regarding access to Chinden west of Hwy-16.

Ms. Carson asked the Commission to provide a collective opinion that could be provided to City Council on behalf the City.

Chairman Steed opened the topic for discussion. Commissioner Ballard provided feedback but the audio did not clearly capture his comments. Commissioner Lancaster also provided input and suggested any opinion provided should be consistent with the Administrative Code (that governs access points along highways, as this is a two mile stretch from a coast to coast highway), as well as adhering to the access spacing in the ITD corridor plan for Chinden. Both Commissioner Hopkins and Commissioner Lewis provided comments, regarding the current state of ½ mile signalized markers and that being consistent with the ITD corridor plan for an urban area.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion that ½ mile signalized markers are appropriate for the City of Meridian on Chinden West of Hwy 16; second by Commissioner Hopkins. Discussion occurred and Commissioner Lewis amended his motion to state that the signalized ½ mile markers are appropriate and should be at collector streets. The call for a vote by Chairman Steed – all ayes – motion approved.

7. Staff Communications (M. Carson)

Ms. Carson noted that she would highlight a few of the items included in the Staff Communication Memo which begins on page 17.

Ms. Carson began by noting an update on the COMPASS Charter School and the discussion that took place last month regarding the addition of a left turn lane on Black Cat into COMPASS Charter School. ACHD will not be adding a left turn lane at this time. The decision was made

that the addition of a left turn lane would need to be part of the future widening project for Black Cat Road.

On pg. 19 towards the bottom of the page Ms. Carson noted a discussion she and Chairman Steed had about Transportation Improvements as part of a Development project. These Developer roadway items are not part of the ACHD webpage as they are not managed by ACHD, rather they are managed through the development process. After their discussion it was agreed that a running list of projects required by new developments may be a good task for the Development Review subcommittee to maintain.

Ms. Carson stood for questions and Chairman Steed opened the floor for discussion on the Staff Communication topics, which took place. Ms. Carson suggested that the Development Application subcommittee meet and she will provide a brief tutorial on how to find the information on roadway projects constructed through the development process by using the online resources available to the public.

8. ACHD Capital Investment Citizen Advisory Committee (W. Steed)

Item vacated from the agenda. To be discussed at a future meeting.

9. January Meeting Date (W. Steed)

Chairman Steed opened the discussion and solicited feedback on continuing the regularly scheduled January 3rd, 2022 meeting. The Commission and staff confirmed that the January 3rd date would work.

Prior to further discussion Ms. Carson wanted to highlight one other item from the Staff Communications update, and directed the Commission's attention to page 36 and the open comment period for the TIP amendment regarding the auxiliary lane on I-84. Any comments can be submitted directly to COMPASS, Ms. Tisdale or Ms. Carson.

Additionally, Commissioner LeClaire proposed that the Development Review Subcommittee meet on Dec 6th at 2:30pm prior to the regular Transportation Commission meeting.

Chairman Steed opened the topic of Future Meeting Topics and asked for any needed edits. The CICAC Volunteer will be added to the December meeting along with an update from the Development Review Subcommittee.

Future Meeting Topics

10. Field Trip 2022

11. Fields Subarea Plan

12. CICAC Volunteer (Dec)

13. Street Cleaning operations/scheduling

Next Meeting Date: December 6th, 2021

Adjourn

Chairman Steed requested a motion to adjourn; made by Commissioner Lewis; second by Commissioner Ballard – all ayes- meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.

(AUDIO RECORDING AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

APPROVED:

WALTER STEED, CHAIR

DATE

ATTEST:

CHRIS JOHNSON (City Clerk)

DATE