



MEETING MINUTES TRANSPORTATION and Mobility COMMISSION

Kathleen Kleinmann, Chair

Commissioners

Jude Abanulo
Emily Bailey
Jeffrey Ganz
Douglas Ierley

Marc Plante
Paul Scott
Mike Stein
Shui-Ying Wong

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7:00 PM

This meeting was recorded for the public record and is available at the following link:

<https://rockvillemd.webex.com/webappng/sites/rockvillemd/recording/5b33fc69afea103b9cf3ce2ede612ee4/playback>

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

- a. Members present: Kathleen Kleinmann (Chair), Jude Abanulo, Jeffrey Ganz, Mark Plante, Mike Stein, Ying Wong
- b. Members absent: Emily Bailey, Doug Ierley, Paul Scott
- c. Recognition of staff and guests
 - i. Mayor Bridget Newton, Councilmember David Myles – Council Liaison
 - ii. Jane Lyons – Community Planning and Development Services, Bryan Barnett-Woods – Staff Liaison

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- d. Review of February 28, 2023 meeting minutes, and vote for approval

MOTION: Jeffrey Ganz moved to approve the February minutes; SECOND: Mike Stein; DISCUSSION: None; APPROVAL: Unanimous.

- e. Review and modifications of current agenda
 - i. Jane Lyons Raeder will speak first.
 - ii. Beall Avenue discussion will be tabled.
- f. General announcements by Chairperson and Commissioners
 - i. The Traffic and Transportation Commission was renamed the Transportation and Mobility Commission per Mayor and Council action on March 27, 2023.
 - ii. Mayor Newton congratulated the Commission on a successful effort to update the roles and responsibilities of the Commission.

2. Rockville Town Center Neighborhood Plan

- a. Presentation by Jane Lyons-Raeder
 - i. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan directed staff to update the 2001 Town Center Neighborhood Plan.
 - ii. There have been several recommendations and studies related to Town Center. This planning effort will incorporate those studies.
 - iii. The project timeline is 18 months and is expected to be completed by July 2024. The Commission will have another opportunity to comment on the draft plan in December 2023.
- b. Questions and opportunities for additional comment

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- i. Commission members recommended extending outreach to Rockville as whole, more than the direct mailings for Town Center residents.
 - ii. Commission members also requested information related to how Town Center's success compares with similar developments in the region, including retail, vacancies, and patron-age differences as well as the lessons learned from past plans.
 - iii. Commission members recommended that Rockville host major events to Town Center instead of other City venues as well as improving engagement efforts with the public about events at the Town Center.
 - iv. Commission members also suggested that this plan address how to improve the 255 Rockville Pike building to help address the challenges along state roadways.
 - v. Commission members requested information related to density thresholds for supporting different types of businesses and retail.
 - vi. This project is separate from the Rockville Metrorail Station Visioning Project.
 - vii. Commission members recommended improvements to the older buildings that are not inviting from MD 355.
 - viii. Commission members recommended improvements for way finding and connect to the Metro.
- c. The Commission can provide additional comments related transportation between Town Center and Montgomery College, as well as other roadways in Town Center that can be redesigned to advance safety and multi-mobility.

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- 3. Staff reports, data, and updates
 - a. Traffic and Transportation Division Monthly Report
 - i. Ongoing projects and work
 - 1. Vision Zero intersection improvements have upcoming public meetings in May for Fleet Street and Wootton Parkway and Edmonston Dr and Lewis Avenue.
 - 2. Sidewalk feasibility studies have upcoming public meetings.
 - ii. Questions for T&T Division Monthly Report
 - 1. What is the new plan for the Potomac Valley Road sidewalk gap?
 - 2. What is the Highway Safety Action Plan grant? Can the City apply?
 - 3. Is there any additional information related to the new speed monitoring camera on Veirs Mill Rd?
 - 4. Request for an article in Rockville Reports to announce the name change.
 - 5. Are any Public Works staff attending the April MDOT Summit.
 - b. 2023 Grant Applications brainstorm
 - i. Transit Within Reach - staff propose pedestrian improvements along N. Horners Ln from Woodland Rd to Grandin Avenue.
 - ii. Transportation Alternatives Program – Staff propose an application to design the Fleet and Monroe Complete Streets project.
 - iii. Maryland Bikeways Network – Staff propose an application to study feasibility and design on Halpine Road and E. Jefferson Street.

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4. FY 24 Budget

a. Budget item recommendations

- i. Additional specificity is necessary for recommendations to the Mayor and Council.
- ii. It is important to note that the proposed FY 24 budget includes a property tax increase. This will require an additional review in the budget and requiring eliminating \$12M, mostly from capital improvements.

b. Next Budget Public Hearing – April 17, 2023

- i. The Commission decided to hold the next meeting on April 12 to prepare a letter for the Mayor and Council to recommend changes to the budget.
- ii. The final date for comments is April 21, 2023.

5. Transportation Land Use Connections & Regional Roadway Safety Program projects – This item was tabled for a future meeting.

6. Comprehensive Transportation Review (CTR) – Commission Discussion and Recommendations – This item was tabled for a future meeting.

- a. Subcommittee meeting follow up
- b. Next steps for subcommittee

7. Old and New Business

- a. Other transportation groups in the region
- b. Other business

8. Adjournment – next regular meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2023.

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