

Meeting Minutes

Meridian Transportation Commission

Monday, June 3, 2024

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

Roll Call

MEMBERS

David Ballard

Walter Steed

Zach Shoemaker

Hoyoon Song

Stephen Lewis

Tracy Hopkins

Jared Smith

Tom LeClaire

Ryan Lancaster

EX-OFFICIO

John Wasson (ACHD)

Lila Klopfenstein (COMPASS)

Miranda Carson (WASD)

Alissa Taysom (VRT)

Justin Price (ITD)

OTHERS PRESENT

Cpl. Trevor Weitzel (Police)

Tishra Murray (Legal)

Caleb Hood (Comm. Dev.)

Hether Hill (Comm. Dev.)

Adoption of the Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda by Staff or Commissioners. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hopkins, 2nd by Commissioner Ballard. All ayes

Approval of Minutes

1. May 6, 2024

Commissioner Lewis noted one typo. Motion to approve as amended by Commissioner Hopkins, 2nd by Commissioner Ballard- all ayes; passes.

Old Business Items

2. Transportation Projects Update – Hether Hill

Ms. Hill began on Page 6 of the packet and recommended the Commission review the updates provided in bolded text through page 12. Ms. Hill noted there were no significant updates month over month. There were no further questions or comments from the Commission.

3. ACHD Master Street Map Changes: Arterial Corridor Preservation – Caleb Hood

Mr. Hood requested a recommendation from the Commission to take to City Council on June 18th in anticipation of sending a formal request from the City to ACHD to amend the Master Street Map (MSM). The Commission discussed reducing Cherry Lane from the planned 7 lanes to 5 lanes. Commissioner Lewis would like to see traffic forecasts from COMPASS before considering the Cherry Lane segment as part of the MSM amendments. The transition of 7 lanes to 5 lanes on Fairview Avenue/Cherry Lane is currently planned at Linder Road. Mr. Hood emphasized that the current MSM conversation is about preservation and that the Commission should consider the transition be at the Meridian Road intersection, rather than Linder Road. Discussion amongst staff and the Commission ensued and it was decided to review traffic counts and reevaluate this

road segment at a later time. Commissioner Lewis made a motion to endorse City staff's recommendations on increasing the 3-lane to 5-lane segments (identified in the packet) in the MSM but refrained from making any recommendation surround the 5-lane vs. 7-lane segment on Cherry Lane at this time (neutral), 2nd by Hopkins – ayes from all Commissioners except Commissioner LeClaire who opposed. Motion passes.

New Business Items [ACTION ITEM]

4. Chinden/Linder Crash Data – Justin Price (ITD)

Mr. Price reviewed 2021, 2022 and 2023 crash data. There were 20 crashes and only one was due to a U-turn, which was a result of two vehicles in both turning lanes attempting a U-turn at the same time. There have been no crashes related to proper usage of the U-turn in conjunction of a northbound vehicle trying to make a right turn. Mr. Price also performed a site visit and observed the intersection during one of its busier times. There were no questions from the Commission.

5. Ex-Officio Updates

John Wasson – ACHD is gearing up to do a pedestrian count on Lost Rapids near the new Costco; ACHD is also in the process in putting in speed humps across County – about 80 of them; chip sealing begins first week of June, however, it is not planned for Meridian this round.

Lila Klopfenstein – COMPASS continues to work on the high-capacity transit planning and environmental linkages study (PEL) and the safety action plans; there is a workshop on big data on Thursday, June 6th, if the Commission is interested in attending; Matt Stole, COMPASS' Executive Director, has announced retirement of February 2025.

Alissa Taysom – Valley Regional Transit (VRT) service changes have officially launched as of June 3rd; there are 100 new bus stops across the Treasure Valley, including an increase to services in Meridian – new route from The Village to Townsquare Mall.

Justin Price – no additional updates other than the Chinden/Linder crash data presented and information provided in Transportation Projects Update portion of the packet.

6. Staff Communications

Staff Communications began on page 14 of the packet. In addition to what was published in the packet, Ms. Hill informed the Commission that 1) ITD would be presenting at the City Council Work Session on Tuesday, June 4th, to address speed limits on Eagle Road, safety concerns and any possible solutions; and 2) the Mayor's State of the City address will take place Wednesday, June 5th at 3:30pm if any of the Commissioners wish to RSVP.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

7. Lost Rapids/Bird Park

Next Meeting Date: July 1, 2024

Adjournment; 4:06pm – Motion by Commissioner Hopkins, 2nd by Commissioner LeClaire - all ayes.

(AUDIO RECORDING AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

APPROVED:

WALTER STEED, CHAIR

DATE _____

ATTEST:

CHRIS JOHNSON (City Clerk)

DATE _____