



MORGANTOWN TRAFFIC COMMISSION

DATE: **Wednesday, November 2, 2011**

TIME: **6:30 P.M.**

City Council Chambers

Engineering Dept.

389 Spruce Street
Morgantown, WV 26505
304.284.7412

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Voting Members

Margaret Roberts

Paul Steel

David McKain

Chris Gluck

Adam Henry

Andrea Soccorsi

Jamie Lewis

Roy Nutter

Ken Martis

Wes Nugent

Non-Voting Members

Damien Davis

1st Sgt. Matt McCabe

Frank Gmeindl

Christiaan Abildso

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MINUTES: Approval of August & September Minutes

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BICYCLE BOARD REPORT:

- Frank Gmeindl's report to Traffic Commission

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BOARD REPORT:

- NWVCIL Letter to WV DOH

TRAFFIC CALMING REPORT:

TRUCK TRAFFIC REPORT:

MONTHLY UPDATES (Engineering):

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1.) Amendment to City Code changing the name of the Traffic Commission to Transportation Commission

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Claire Chantler to present a brief summary of the walk the NWVCIL and Pedestrian Safety Board sponsored on October 3rd.
- 2.) Roy Nutter report on WVU Evansdale Master Plan

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Traffic Commissioners:

Margaret Roberts, 1st Ward

Paul Steel, 2nd Ward

David McKain, 3rd Ward

Chris Gluck, 4th Ward

Adam Henry, 5th Ward

Andrea Soccorsi, 6th Ward

Jamie Lewis, 7th Ward

Roy Nutter, At-large

Wes Nugent, City Council

Ken Martis, Planning Commission

Administration Advisors:

Damien Davis, Engineering

Matt McCabe, Police Dept.

NOTE: If you need an accommodation contact us at (304)284-7412.

Minutes

Traffic Commission Meeting Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Voting Members Present: Paul Steel, David McKain, Chris Gluck, Adam Henry, Andrea Soccorsi, Jamie Lewis, Ken Martis, Wes Nugent

Non-Voting Members Present: Damien Davis, Sgt. Matt McCabe, Frank Gmeindl

Members Absent: Margaret Roberts, Roy Nutter, Christiaan Abildso

MATTER OF BUSINESS: Chris Gluck called meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Introductions were made by all attending Traffic Commission Members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No Public Comment

MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes to be uploaded to Website, No minutes were available to approve.

BICYCLE BOARD:

Frank Gmeindl detailed accomplishments and continuing efforts of the Bicycle Board. (See attached report)

Discussion ensued.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BOARD:

No Report available.

TRAFFIC CALMING REPORT:

No Report.

TRUCK TRAFFIC REPORT:

Andrea Soccorsi reported to Traffic Commission. Discussion ensued.

MONTHLY UPDATES:

Damien Davis reported the status of the WVDOH letters sent by the Pedestrian Board. Discussion ensued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (none)

NEW BUSINESS:

1 State and MPO traffic counts – Bill Austin did not appear at the meeting.

2. Amendment to City Code changing the name of the Traffic Commission to Transportation Commission – Ken Martis reviewed the request to change the name of the Traffic Commission to the Transportation Commission. Discussion ensued. ***Ken Martis Moved to have Dave McKain look at the Traffic vs. Transportation Document. Dave McKain seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.***

3. New members to be appointed to replace Don Spencer on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Boards – Bicycle Board requests to appoint Adam Henry to replace Don Spencer. ***Wes Nugent moved to appoint Adam Henry to the Bicycle Board. Jamie Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.***

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Minutes

Traffic Commission Meeting Wednesday, August 3, 2011

Voting Members Present: Paul Steel, David McKain, Chris Gluck, Adam Henry, Andrea Soccorsi, Jamie Lewis, Roy Nutter, Wes Nugent

Non-Voting Members Present: Damien Davis, Lt. Mike Lantz, Frank Gmeindl

Members Absent: Margaret Roberts, Ken Martis, Christiaan Abildso

MATTER OF BUSINESS: Roy Nutter called meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Introductions were made by all attending Traffic Commission Members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No Public Comment

MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes to be uploaded to Website, No minutes were available to approve.

BICYCLE BOARD:

Bicycle Board recommended appointing Andrew Walker to Replace Aira Burkhardt. *Wes Nugent motioned to appoint. Paul Steel seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Frank Gmeindl detailed accomplishments and continuing efforts of the Bicycle Board. (See attached report)

Discussion ensued.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY BOARD:

No Report available.

TRAFFIC CALMING REPORT:

No Report. Chris Gluck suggested coordinating schedules for the Traffic Calming Committee to meet soon. One of the topics to be revisited is the cut-through traffic in the Suncrest Neighborhood.

TRUCK TRAFFIC REPORT:

Andrea Soccorsi reported to Traffic Commission. Several suggestions were made for a designated truck route, one of those being the Green Bag Road. Andrea Soccorsi also read a letter that was sent to the editor (see attached). Discussion ensued.

Andrea Soccorsi and Adam Henry suggested doing a survey showing the amount of truck traffic in City of Morgantown Limits. Discussion ensued.

MONTHLY UPDATES:

Damien Davis reported the status of the City of Morgantown's Paving Project and various other projects with in City of Morgantown Limits. Discussion ensued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (none)

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: *David McKain motioned to adjourn meeting. Andrea Soccorsi seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.*

November 2, 2011

Bicycle Board Report to Traffic Commission

HIGHLIGHTS

Accomplishments

1. Delivered Bicycling for Sustainable Living lecture to 30 participants at WVU. Four participants signed up for full CCC TS101 course to be offered evenings of Nov. 3 and 11 and Sunday Nov. 13.
2. Arranged for CCC materials purchased under DOH grant to be stored at WVU Mountaineer Station with inventory control.
3. Completed preliminary first draft of Morgantown Bicycling Plan.
4. Submitted to Assistant City Manager, grant application to Bikes Belong for \$10K to fund Mon Blvd. bicycle climbing lane.
5. Collected and summarized bicycle parking and storage ordinances from other cities and delivered to City Director of Development Projects and discussed them with him.
6. Met with Morgantown Parking Director October 12 and provided specific recommendations for 2 bicycle parking lockers to be located 1) on the north side of the Public Safety Center garage and 2) in the Wharf Street parking garage inside the automobile entrance. Mr. Arnold will present the recommendations to the Parking Authority November 9. Also, provided Mr. Arnold recommendation to install 2 post-and-loop parking racks in entrance to the new Farmers Market pavilion. \$5,500 is in the City budget for bicycle parking.
7. Participated in October 13 MPO CAC meeting and drafted petition to WVDOH to enable cyclists to cross Cheat Lake at Ice's Ferry during bridge replacement.
8. Obtained and analyzed 2002 -2011 police reports of crashes involving bicycles and motor vehicles in preparation for meeting with Chief Preston.
9. Met with Chief Preston to discuss enforcement directed toward preventing the major causes of crashes between bicycles and motor vehicles while encouraging increased bicycle use.
10. Reminded WVDOH that in-line grates on Mon Blvd. in front of Coliseum were not corrected with recent repaving; in-line drain grates in South University Ave. between Walnut and Pleasant remain uncorrected as do several others pointed out to WVDOH on state maintained Morgantown streets. (See **Error! Reference source not found.**)

Plans for Next Month

1. Plan roll out for first preliminary Morgantown Bicycle Plan.
2. Complete Intent-to-Apply forms for WVDOH FY2012 Transportation Enhancement and Recreational Trails grants and submit to City Manager.
3. Deliver Nov. 3, 11, 13 CCC TS101 class.
4. Monitor status of \$130K follow-up education grant application to WVDOT.
5. Continue to support City efforts to implement the Traffic Commission's approved Bicycle Board June 2009 recommendations to install a bicycle climbing lane on



- Mon Blvd. and to install Share the Road signs along the Mon Blvd., Beechurst, Don Knotts, South University corridor.
6. Continue to coordinate with WVDOH to replace in-line drainage grates.
 7. Initiate activity with WVU to replace numerous in-line drainage grates on campus.
 8. Support Wilber Smith Associates as required for WV state-wide bicycle plan.
 9. Write Morgantown Effective Bicycling Education Program final report.
 10. Begin to write 2nd Morgantown application to the League of American Bicyclists for the Bicycle Friendly Community award.



Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living



...Breaking Barriers... Bridging Paths to Independence

October 14, 2011

Gary Clayton
West Virginia Division of Highways
Districts 4, 6, and 7 Maintenance Engineer
PO BOX 4220
Clarksburg, WV 26302

Dear Mr. Clayton:

We respectfully request that the Division of Highways take action to ensure that Morgantown residents and visitors have adequate sidewalks and pedestrian routes of travel to enable them to fully participate in and equally enjoy the services and programs offered in our community. The recent reconstruction of South University Avenue and its sidewalks underscores the significance of this issue and ignorance of it. The time to act is now to create a liveable, walkable and inclusive community.

The Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Plan was adopted by the Morgantown Traffic Commission and City Council in 2010, underscoring the following benefits of creating a walkable community.

Civil Rights and Accessibility - People of all ages and abilities have a right to be participating members of the community. Following ADA Accessibility Guidelines is the law, not an option. Without accessible sidewalks, cross walks, and curb cuts people with disabilities and others cannot access the community and are therefore excluded. Compliance ensures that the most access is provided to the most people including parents with strollers, seniors with changes in abilities, children, travelers with luggage, as well as people using wheelchairs or other mobility aids and others.

Economic - There are economic benefits to residents and the City including increased property values, retail rents, retail sales, freedom from the fluctuating price of gasoline through the use of alternate modes of transportation, and enhancement of tourism. Sidewalks can boost economic and social vitality by creating jobs, protecting the environment, and enhancing community engagement. In addition, proactive compliance with ADA regulations will save the state significant dollars by eliminating the need for costly retrofit of completed projects.

Sense of Community and Quality of Life - Informal daily interactions with neighbors and the community at large promotes inclusiveness and allows all members of a community to be involved. Communities which create a well-designed and constructed network of sidewalks, crosswalks, trails, and lighting promote a sense of independence and provide the opportunity for people to walk to work, school, church, shopping, recreation and other activities.

Safety - Sidewalks in disrepair, the lack of sidewalks, curbs that are too steep and cross walk issues put all people at risk of injury or fatality. Even more at risk are people with disabilities using wheelchairs or other mobility aids that may not be able to prevent themselves from falling into the path of oncoming traffic. A well-designed and constructed network of sidewalks can also promote safety from crime for all citizens who may choose to walk or who need to walk due to the lack of other transportation options.

NWVCIL
601-3 East Brockway Avenue Suite A&B
Morgantown, WV 26505
304-296-6091 (voice & TTY)
800-834-6408 (toll free voice & TTY)
304-292-5217 (fax)
nwvcil@nwvcil.org

NWVCIL
PO Box 545
Romney, WV 26757
304-822-7099
dpoling@nwvcil.org

NWVCIL
109 Randolph Avenue.
Elkins, WV 26241
304-636-0143 (voice & TTY)
866-262-2875 (toll free voice & TTY)
304-636-6508 (fax)
dmegert@nwvcil.org

Health and Fitness - Auto-centered lifestyles are sedentary lifestyles; walkable communities promote healthy citizens. Studies show that those commuters using public transit walk more, as do those that run errands and make necessary daily trips by foot. Adequate sidewalks help individuals and families maintain healthy lives, thereby potentially reducing health care costs.

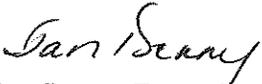
Environmental Benefits - Walking can also reduce auto emissions further improving health and saving citizens money.

South University Avenue violates all of the principles of walkability and accessibility mentioned prior, as do many other sidewalks in City limits. Thus, we appeal to your office to ensure the goals of the Plan be taken into consideration during all projects carried out within the City limits, including the current bridge project on lower Greenbag Road . Specifically, we ask that 1) the South University Avenue ADA violations be identified and rectified immediately, 2) sidewalks on the Greenbag Road bridge be installed consistent with ADA regulations, 3) an ADA audit of all sidewalks along state routes within City limits be conducted and issues rectified, and 4) a procedure be established whereby City staff will be allowed to provide input on design plans prior to any construction within City limits.

A well-designed and constructed network of sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks, trails, way-finding signage, pedestrian signals and lighting is essential to our growth as a community. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss our concerns and how we can assist the State and City in achieving objectives for walkability, accessibility, and inclusivity.

Thank you for your time and attention. We look forward to your response and future collaboration.

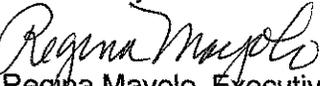
Sincerely,



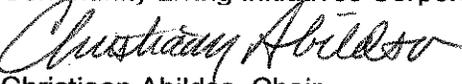
Jan Derry, Executive Director
Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living



Tim Hairston, President
Community Coalition for Social Justice



Regina Mayolo, Executive Director
Community Living Initiatives Corporation



Christiaan Abildso, Chair
Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Board

cc: Terrence Moore, Manager, City of Morgantown
Jim Manilla, Mayor, City of Morgantown
Greg Phillips, DOH Monongalia County District 4 Engineer/Manager
Marvin Murphy, WV State Highway Engineer
Delegate Barbara Evans Fleischauer
Senator Bob Beach
Ron Eck, West Virginia on the Move
Bill Robinson, WV DOH Program Planning and Administrative Division
Brigid O'Keane, Alliance for Biking & Walking, Advocacy Advance Program Manager
Delegate Mike Manypenny