



**CHARLOTTE
MINUTES
January 25, 2022
6:00 PM**

BAC Members Present:	Alane Paraison James Lee Paula Kranz	Veda Evans Lekisha Hamilton Eoin Sheil	Angela Stoyanovitch Caitlin Tobin Liza Pratt
----------------------	--	--	--

Members Absent: Michael Trivette

Staff Present: Will Washam David Harrison Julian Burton Angela Berry
Hannah Bromberger

Agenda Item #1 call to order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Caitlin Tobin, at 6:00PM.

Agenda Item #2 Introduction of members and guests

Paula Kranz introduced herself as the BAC's newest member and told a little bit about herself and her background, along with her professional and personal interests and concerns.

Also present was Eric Supil, ED of TFK Charlotte, and Martin Zimmerman, citizen advocate.

Agenda Item #3 Call to the public

None.

Agenda Item #4 Review of the minutes

Eoin Sheil motioned to approve the November minutes, James Lee seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with one abstention from Liza Pratt. Lakiesha Hamilton asked to have the spelling of her name corrected.

Agenda Item #5 Monthly reports

Chair's report: Ms. Tobin explained that the retreat that had been planned to take place on this date will instead take the place of the February BAC meeting. A more detailed agenda will be sent out beforehand. The objective is to prioritize what the BAC wants to work on this year and will be held at the Urban Design Center. Ms. Tobin reminded the group that the two letters of recommendations to Council were approved to be sent but is waiting until Council takes up budget discussions to send.

Staff report: Mr. Washam mentioned that there will be a professional facilitator from City HR for the retreat. He announced that there will be a return to a more traditional Bike CLT this year, with more in-person rides and events. Dates will be released as we get closer to springtime.

Agenda Item #6 Standing subcommittee reports

The subcommittees did not meet this month.

Agenda Item #7 New business

Capital Budget Process

Hannah Bromberger from the City's Finance Department gave a presentation on how the City prioritizes funding in the budget adoption process. She gave some highlights for the plan for the 2022 bond to double funding for Vision Zero and the Bike Program, and more than triple funding for the Ped Program. Angela Stoyanovitch asked what was the impetus to increase this funding? Ms. Bromberger explained that there was a lot of media press about lack of sidewalks in Charlotte last year which played into this, as well as population growth and a recognition that these are important projects that need more funding. She outlined the virtual budget listening sessions dates and how to sign up to speak. She noted you can also take the budget community input survey. This data is shared with Council. And there is also the balancing act budget simulator, which she explained how it works. James Lee asked about the survey, said that often you only get input from the community that is already involved. He wants to know how to share with more people. There is a hyperlink online and the City's social media. Ms. Bromberger encouraged the group to please share with anyone, we want as many respondents as possible. Mr. Lee asked if there is a paper version? Ms. Bromberger replied yes, we can get paper versions out there too and to please email her for paper copies. Then she went over the key budget dates. Ms. Tobin thanked Ms. Bromberger for her presentation and encouraged the BAC to participate in those budget listening sessions if they are able. Liza Pratt asked if there is another Instagram account besides cltgov? Lekisha Hamilton asked what date that info was shared?

Vision Zero Updates

Mr. Washam introduced Angela Berry and what she is responsible for in her role with CDOT. Ms. Berry shared the new Vision Zero tagline, "Our streets, our responsibility," which better captures our course of action. Vision Zero is an injury reduction strategy, not a crash reduction strategy. It's about reducing serious or fatal crashes, and is not a Charlotte only issue, but rather a state and nationwide initiative. Safe streets for all users. Shaping a community culture of safety, something BAC could help with. She gave some examples, like using the crosswalk, crossing with the signal, and watching for turning vehicles. In order to implement these policy changes CDOT works with the hospitals, schools, and police. And we look at street design: where can we lower the speed limit, add bike lanes, crosswalks, etc. All CDOT CIP programs have a Vision Zero element to them because increased safety is always the number one goal. We can lower local streets speed limits to 25mph without a study. Improved street lighting also helps. Speed message boards or driver feedback signs are also part of the solution. Improvements on the high injury network (HIN) to infrastructure is another example. James Lee asked about the NC Watch

For Me campaign and how we can focus that messaging here in Charlotte. Ms. Berry responded that she hears what he is saying but it is going to take some time to undue fifty years of building roads strictly for cars. We are planning to put out some billboards with that safety message to share the road. CDOT is committed to making our streets safer. Angie asked about the drivers' license test and adding questions about sharing the road with cyclists. She also asked about poor visibility along Beatties Ford Rd and not getting satisfaction from 311 when trying to make these requests. How accessible is it to make these requests? How can we make it easier for citizens to make these requests? Ms. Berry said you can email her about site obstructions. Angie invited Ms. Berry to join one of their subcommittee meetings. Veda Evans would like to know what Vision Zero is doing within the education and encouragement piece? Ms. Berry replied that it's more CMP and Atrium Health that are offering to come into the schools to teach these lessons, but principals can say no because they are more focused on testing. Alane Paraison reiterated what Mr. Lee said about drivers not being aware of cyclists and understanding they belong in the street.

Strategic Mobility Plan

Will Washam introduced Julian Burton and David Harrison and their roles within CDOT. Julian Burton gave a high-level presentation, stated we are still in the draft stage of putting this plan together. He went over the big planning initiatives we have going on right now. The 2040 Policy Map will deal with land use so it's coming out ahead of the others. The SMP is a key piece of implementing the comp plan and will update the previous transportation plans, CLT Walks, CLT Bikes. The Streets Manual will include the Streets Map and the Comprehensive Transportation Review (CTR), which will introduce new TIS guidelines to help mitigate development impacts. And then the UDO will combine all the other citywide ordinances into one document. Mr. Burton explained the difference between the Transformational Mobility Network and the SMP. He showed the draft timeline to adoption; SMP this spring, UDO this summer. We will be looking for BAC feedback after the first draft is complete. James Lee asked about community engagement, said there has been a lot of confusion about all these different plans and how they will fit together, how they will impact the city's growth. He asked what do you envision with the SMP? How can we engage those who are not engaged? What kind of engagement can we offer moving forward at this point, since we are so far into it? Mr. Burton was not able to give specifics but agrees this is important. We are seeing that Charlotteans are becoming more and more aware of mobility issues as the city continues to grow. CDOT staff will keep the BAC in the loop as we move forward on public engagement. Veda Evans said she has been trying to follow the policy map and the UDO and SMP planning that the BAC participated in. She asked do we need to think about including bike lanes in place types? Mr. Burton said this will be handled more practically with the Streets Map. Every arterial will have a bike facility on it, whether it's a bike lane or a shared use path. This will become a regulation for all new development. The comp plan does talk about the level of connectivity that should be provided in each place type. David Harrison gave some clarification on the policy side of the Streets Map and its influence on land use as guided by the Policy Map. The two work in parallel to reinforce the relationship between land use and mobility in terms of how the built environment takes shape. Ms. Tobin asked if the Bicycle Priority Investment Network was used to inform the

Streets Map. Mr. Washam clarified that the Streets Map covers the entire street network citywide, whereas the PIN outlines the CIP projects we want to prioritize in order to build out the bike network.

Agenda Item #8 Member topics

Ms. Pratt shared that she really enjoyed the presentations and thinks it's best the retreat was postponed so that the BAC has less info to digest day of the retreat. James Lee asked if there is a visual graphic that can show how all of these plans fit together? Mr. Harrison referred him to the graphic that Mr. Burton shared on one of the slides in his presentation. Perhaps this could be refined as the website is updated.

Agenda Item #9 confirm next meeting and adjourn

Ms. Tobin reminded that committee that the retreat will take the place of the BAC February meeting at the Urban Design Center on February 22 from 4 to 8PM. Mr. Washam informed the group that the space lends itself well to social distancing as it is wide open. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.