

**City Of Birmingham Multi-Modal Transportation Board**  
**Thursday, September 7, 2023**

151 Martin Street, City Commission Room 205, Birmingham, MI

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Birmingham Multi-Modal Transportation Board held Thursday, September 7, 2023. Vice-Chair Peard convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**A. Rollcall**

**Present:** Vice-Chair Tom Peard; Board Members David Hocker, Victoria Policicchio;  
Alternate Board Members Gordon Davies, Patrick Hillberg

**Absent:** Chair Doug White; Board Members Mark Doolittle, Anthony Long, Joe Zane;  
Student Representatives Sophie Hanawalt, Angie Sharma

**Staff:** Senior Planner Cowan; City Engineer Coatta, Police Captain Kearney

**F&V:** Julie Kroll

**MKSK:** Brad Strader

**B. Introductions & Chair Comments**

Ms. Policicchio provided the Board's introductory comments.

**C. Review of the Agenda**

**D. Approval of MMTB Minutes of May 4, 2023**

**Motion by Mr. Hocker**

**Seconded by Ms. Policicchio to approve the MMTB Minutes of May 4, 2023 as amended.**

**Motion carried, 5-0.**

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Hocker, Peard, Policicchio, Hillberg, Davies

Nays: None

**E. Approval of MMTB Minutes of June 1, 2023**

**Motion by Mr. Hillberg**

**Seconded by Mr. Hocker to approve the MMTB Minutes of June 1, 2023 as amended.**

**Motion carried, 5-0.**

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Hocker, Peard, Policicchio, Hillberg, Davies

Nays: None

## **E. New Business**

### **1. Brandon & Shirley Stop/Yield Sign Review**

SP Cowan introduced the item. Ms. Kroll presented the item. Ms. Kroll and SP Cowan answered informational questions from the Board.

#### **Motion by Ms. Policicchio**

**Seconded by Mr. Hillberg to recommend to City Commission that the City pursue a Minor Street YIELD Control on Brandon Street at the Shirley Road approach.**

**Motion carried, 5-0.**

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Hocker, Peard, Policicchio, Hillberg, Davies

Nays: None

### **2. Cole Street Parking Review**

SP Cowan introduced the item. PC Kearney and Mr. Strader presented the item. Staff answered informational questions from the Board.

#### Public Comment

A representative for a landlord on Cole Street made a comment regarding the proposal.

Joe Jacob of Bob Adams Towing made a comment in support of diverting traffic from Cole.

Individual Board comments were as follows:

- The City should pursue some sort of a study to investigate the recommendation made by Mr. Jacob;
- Removing the spots from the south side could be done on a trial basis with the option to re-evaluate if requested by the public. This street as-is has had a relatively high number of accidents, which means it would likely be safer to remove the parking from the south side;
- The data demonstrates that parking on the south side was less than 20% full most of the time. Parking on the north side usually was only 70% utilized. The parking being removed from the south side would solve the safety issue and could be absorbed by the parking on the north side. Creating a new road would be a longer term solution, whereas there was a request before the Board to resolve an issue with Cole presently; and,
- Both sides of the street may be relatively full during certain hours. Even if another road were created, there would still be issues with trucks.

#### **Motion by Mr. Hillberg**

**Seconded by Ms. Policicchio to remove parking from the south side of Cole Street east of S. Eton Street.**

**Motion carried, 5-0.**

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Hocker, Peard, Policicchio, Hillberg, Davies

Nays: None

It was noted that over the longer term the City could study connectivity issues in the Rail District.

**3. 2024-2025 Capital Improvement Projects Review**

SP Cowan introduced the item. Mr. Strader presented the item. Staff and Mr. Strader answered informational questions from the Board.

Board comments were as follows:

- Once Arlington is repaved, the driving speeds would likely increase. Adding a sidewalk to one or both sides of Arlington would have beneficial traffic calming effects;
- Creating a sidewalk on the east side of Arlington would make the most sense since it would link up with the crossing a Maple and Lake Park. It would also connect well to Linden Park;
- The proposal would not be a significant change, and would improve the safety of walking on Arlington. Adding a sidewalk on the east side of Arlington would not involve the removal of any mature trees;
- Staff could solicit resident feedback on the Arlington proposal at the October 2023 Board meeting;
- Investing more in the Maple crossing at Arlington would make sense; and,
- There is a future planned little library at the corner of Fairfax and Maple.

**F. Unfinished Business**

**G. Meeting Open to the Public for items not on the Agenda**

A Board member recommended that using machine learning to control traffic be added to a future agenda.

Another Board member asked that the Parks and Recreation Board (PR Board) present its Trail Improvement Plan to the MMTB so that the MMTB can remain sensitive to the changes the PR Board hopes to make.

**H. Miscellaneous Communications**

**I. Next Meeting**

**J. Adjournment**

No further business being evident, the Board adjourned at 7:14 p.m.



Brooks Cowan, Senior Planner Director

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist

APPROVED