

DRAFT

City Of Birmingham Multi-Modal Transportation Board Thursday, May 4, 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, May 4, 2023. Chair White convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

A. Rollcall

Present: Chair Doug White, Vice-Chair Tom Peard; Board Members David Hocker, Anthony Long, Victoria Policicchio; Student Representatives Sophie Hanawalt, Angie Sharma

Absent: Board Member Mark Doolittle, Joe Zane; Alternate Board Members Gordon Davies, Patrick Hillberg

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

F&V: Julie Kroll

MKSK: Brad Strader

B. Introductions & Chair Comments

VC Peard provided introductory comments.

C. Review of the Agenda

D. Approval of MMTB Minutes of March 2, 2023

Motion by VC Peard

Seconded by Mr. Long to approve the MMTB Minutes of March 2, 2023 as amended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Policicchio, Hocker, Peard, White, Long

Nays: None

E. Unfinished Business

1. S. Eton Road Design Concepts, 14 Mile to Yosemite

Staff, Mr. Strader, and Ms. Kroll presented the item and answered informational questions from the Board.

Board discussion was as follows:

- There was an increased opportunity to improve the safety of S. Eton since the road was

- being reconstructed;
- There should be a bidirectional bike lane on one side of the street, and all of the on-street parking should be preserved;
- Option C3 could be modified to have 20 feet for parking and a 2.5 foot buffer zone on each side;
- It might be possible to reduce the parking while improving the sight distance;
- It did not seem possible to entirely preserve the parking given that drivers and pedestrians reported the sight distances were unsafe and the area does not meet the City's sight distance standards;
- The elimination of the two feet off the amenity zone on the west side maybe be prohibitive for people trying to park;
- It might be appropriate to modify Option C1 for south of Lincoln to preserve but reduce the parking and also to preserve but reduce the amenity zone in order to increase green space; and,
- Staff's and Consultants' work was appreciated by the Board.

In reply to Board discussion, Staff and Consultants said:

- A 2.5 foot buffer zone could be explored, but might cause issues with vehicle door openings entering the bike lane;
- The Police Department was not in favor of maintaining the bidirectional bike lane because it is an unexpected design and creates difficult to manage conditions at the intersection with Yosemite;
- It might be possible to reduce the curb on the west side of the street and to reduce, but not eliminate, parking in order to improve sight distances;
- While it might be possible to do 'Small Car Only' parking in certain spots to improve sight distances, drivers tend to disregard those signs;
- Staff and Consultants would return with a design with bump outs and pedestrian island crossings for north of Lincoln; and,
- Board consensus seemed to be to leave the green space at the intersection of Lincoln and S. Eton instead of potentially using it for parking/

Public Comment

Carol Tardie recommended a four-way stop at Bradford and S. Eton and a sign at 14 Mile and S. Eton that prohibits through traffic between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Larry Bertollini supported no additional parking at Lincoln and S. Eton, the potential removal of the amenity zones, and a potential bidirectional bike lane. He asked if there were catch basins on S. Eton south of Lincoln.

Denise Rumzey supported signage for the public parking in front of Bolyard Lumber and no additional parking at Lincoln and S. Eton. She did not support widening the south part of S. Eton from Lincoln to 14 Mile.

Claudia Unruh reviewed her email to the Board. She added that safety should be the City's priority, that the removal of parking would be an evidence-based change for improving safety significantly, and that she would be interested in learning more about evidence-based traffic calming measures. She asked whether a study had been conducted to prove that on street parking on S. Eton had

to be maintained.

Mr. Long thanked the public for their participation. He said there was a need for parking on S. Eton, especially closer to Maple. He ventured that removing parking from S. Eton would result in more parking on the adjacent streets.

The Chair also thanked the public for their participation.

2. Adams Road – Road Diet DRAFT Review

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

Mr. Hocker noted that while emergency vehicles could use the middle lane generally, Adams has a break in the middle lane at Lake Park which would prevent emergency vehicles from being able to continue down the middle lane without stopping.

In reply to Mr. Hocker, Ms. Kroll noted that vehicles should be allowing emergency vehicles to pass. She said she would solicit feedback from the Fire Department on road diets.¹

VC Peard and Mr. Long said that while they had been skeptical about the Maple road diet, it ended up being a very beneficial change.

Mr. Hocker said the Maple road diet increased the volume of traffic on nearby streets.

Ms. Hanawalt said the Adams road diet might increase traffic and speed in the Poppleton Park neighborhood. She recommended speaking to the residents of the neighborhood.

F. New Business

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

H. Miscellaneous Communications

1. Multi-Modal Transportation Day 2023 Planning

SP Cowan presented the item.

Motion by Ms. Policicchio

Seconded by VC Peard to schedule a special meeting of the Multi-Modal Transportation Board for May 25, 2023 at 12 p.m.

Motion carried, 5-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Policicchio, Hocker, Peard, White, Long

Nays: None

I. Next Meeting

¹ As amended at the June 1, 2023 meeting.

J. Adjournment

No further business being evident, the Board adjourned at 8:03 p.m.



Brooks Cowan, Senior Planner Director

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist

DRAFT