

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD  
NEW ADMINISTRATION ORIENTATION MINUTES  
February 25, 2021  
VIDEO CONFERENCE  
GOVERNMENT CENTER  
2:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Greg Brown, MBC Planning & Zoning,  
Chair  
Rachel Hollar Umana, Bike Walk Macon,  
Vice Chair  
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management  
Michael Ryan, Citizen  
Myrtle Habersham, AARP  
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer  
Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business  
Affairs  
Molly Wilkins, Citizen  
Commissioner Elaine Lucas  
Major Brad Wolfe, BCSO

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Lester Miller  
Commissioner Virgil Watkins  
Commissioner Valerie Wynn  
Kevin Poss, MBC Facilities Management  
Taylor Stickels, Middle Georgia Regional  
Commission  
Bob Dallas, Vision Zero  
Tom Ellington, Vision Zero Liaison  
Kaye Cleveland, Recording Secretary

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Lieutenant Scot Davis, BCSO  
David Gowan, Bibb County School District  
Ron Wildman, Citizen

Chairman Greg Brown called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

**Establishment of Pedestrian Safety Review Board (PSRB) – Greg Brown**

Chairman Brown discussed the establishment of the PSRB. He stated between 2014 and 2018 roughly 150 pedestrian fatalities and 860 serious injuries occurred in Macon, GA. The Mayor and Commissioners were advised an ordinance was passed in 2015 to establish the Pedestrian Safety Review Board address issues regarding traffic and pedestrian safety.

Dr. Tom Ellington stated lack of pedestrian accommodations in the transportation system, outdated infrastructure, and pedestrian education as challenges encountered to reduce the number of pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries.

Dr. Ellington shared accomplishments achieved because of recommendations of board members to increase pedestrian safety. Discussion ensued regarding installation of pedestrian facilities, speed bumps in high-speed areas, lighting, and improvements on highways done because of recommendations to the Macon-Bibb County Commission on behalf of the PSRB.

Dr. Ellington discussed the Vision Zero Action Plan and efforts made by Mr. Bob Dallas to implement said plan and reduce pedestrian fatalities and serious in Macon-Bibb County.

### **Policy and Legislation Overview – Vice Chair Rachel Umana**

Vice Chair Rachel Umana, Bike Walk Macon, gave an overview of PSRB Policy and Legislation Committee. Vice Chair Umana discussed the Complete Streets Policy to accommodate pedestrians, cyclists and drivers and improve road safety. She advised said policy was ready to be presented to the Macon-Bibb County Commission.

### **Engineering Overview – Nigel Floyd**

Mr. Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer, advised the Mayor and Commissioners regarding Road Safety Audits (RSAs) performed on Pio Nono Avenue, Mercer University Drive, Gray Highway and Eisenhower Parkway. He discussed road improvements made because of RSAs performed by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).

Mr. Floyd stated road improvements were made in collaboration with MBC Facilities Management. Mr. Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Mgt Director, stated legislation passed to reduce speeds on certain roads resulted from recommendations made by the Pedestrian Safety Review Board.

### **Enforcement Overview – Major Brad Wolfe**

Major Brad Wolfe, BCSO, discussed efforts made by law enforcement to increase pedestrian and traffic safety. Major Wolfe shared information gathered through crash data studies performed by the Bibb County Sheriff's Office. He stated information was gathered to determine what factors contributed to the higher pedestrian fatality and/or crash rate in Macon-Bibb County.

The Mayor and Commissioners were advised the goals of the Sheriff's Office were to increase enforcement to reduce aggressive driving, DUI, speeding and distracted driving to increase pedestrian safety. Major Wolfe discussed the Pedestrian On The Move Campaign as well as Pedestrian Education Events held at the Douglass Theatre to showcase accomplishments, get suggestion and feedback and advised citizens regarding safety precautions when walking and driving.

### **Public Communication Overview – Charise Stephens**

Ms. Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business Affairs, discussed Public Communication efforts to increase pedestrian safety. She discussed the U C Me Initiative, the PSRB Website, Facebook Page and Newsletter. The Mayor and Commissioners were briefed regarding outreach efforts made in collaboration with the Bibb County Health Department. Chairman Brown advised flashing armbands were distributed at Health Department events for citizens to wear while walking at night to increase visibility. He stated at an earlier event over 350 armbands were distributed to citizens.

### **Interagency Coordination Overview – Myrtle Habersham**

Ms. Myrtle Habersham, AARP, discussed efforts made in collaboration with community organizations to enhance pedestrian safety. Ms. Habersham discussed initiatives made by the Health Department to educate children regarding pedestrian safety. The Mayor and Commissioners were advised regarding efforts made by community organizations to engage citizens and receive suggestions and feedback regarding pedestrian safety concerns.

### **Vision Zero Action Plan Overview – Bob Dallas**

Mr. Bob Dallas gave an overview of the Vision Zero Action Plan. He stated the goal of said plan was to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2040 in collaboration with various stakeholders to develop Macon-Bibb County's transportation system. The Mayor and Commissioners were briefed regarding the history of the Vision Zero Program and its implementation in Macon-Bibb County.

Mr. Dallas discussed grant funding received to assist with implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan. Macon-Bibb County was one of three communities in the United States awarded funds by the Federal Highway Administration Office of Safety to implement the Vision Zero Program. The Mayor and Commissioners were advised Macon-Bibb County was the first community in Georgia to adopt the Vision Zero Action Plan.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Future meetings will be held on the following dates in 2021: March 16; April 20; May 18; June 15; July 20; August 17; September 21; October 19; November 16; and December 21.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kaye Cleveland  
Recording Secretary