

JOINT TRANSPORTATION AND SPECIAL CALLED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023 | 2:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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MINUTES

Councilor(s) Present: O'Quinn

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Councilor O'Quinn.

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA / MINUTES –March 13, 2023**

Action Taken:

Approval of Minutes delayed due to the Lack of a Quorum.

III. **New Applicant:** Dennis Luxury Transportation LLC

Owner: Alton Dennis

Executive Sedan Service.

The applicant has met all necessary requirements.

Requesting two (2) CPNC permits.

Action Taken:

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda by the Committee Chair – No Quorum.

IV. **Amendment to Cost Sharing Agreement RE: Hagood Street**

Presented by: Colin Alexander, BDOT

Colin Alexander presented information to the Committee.

This is an amendment to a previous cost-sharing agreement executed with the City of Mountain Brook for a Federal project to build sidewalks along Hagood Street in both the City of Mountain Brook and the City of Birmingham right-of-way. A request was submitted for an additional section be added to the project that was entirely within the city limits of Birmingham. The City of Birmingham agreed to pay the cost of the match on the project. This increased the cost by \$10,000.00. The work is done, and the cost-sharing agreement needs to be executed.

Action Taken:

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda by the Committee Chair – No Quorum.

V. **Parking System and Curbside Management Update**

Presented by: Christina Argo, BDOT and Thomas Yuill, PEP

Thomas Yuill and Christina Argo presented information to the Committee.

On street Parking – Christina Argo

The City adopted a comprehensive plan approximately ten (10) years ago that suggested that a parking framework be implemented.

Parking System

Parking policies will enable the City to reinforce transit and affordability for residents, while also spurring economic opportunities.

BDOT is working with BPD on operational aspects of the City's parking system.

The plan will involve strategic actions over the next couple of years that will provide a functioning system that generates revenue that will allow the City to re-invest back into the neighborhood's built environment.

Adjusting the ordinance will enable the City to reach long-term goals such as affordable housing, multi modal transportation, development of existing public parking assets and built environment.

Curbside Management

Adopt and act on policies that prioritize reliable transit and bicycling infrastructure, manage other important uses of curbs, managed parking, and prioritize multimodal transportation in street design.

MINUTES

Parking System Operation

BDOT is currently working on ordinance and policy changes and parking operations.

Off Street Parking

The Zoning Ordinance largely regulates off-street parking. It requires that developers build a certain number of parking spaces depending on what kind of building is being constructed, and the size of the building. Some parts of downtown do not require parking and some have 50% reduction. There are some small discounts for being close to a bus stop or having a bike rack installed on site. There are no bicycle requirements in the zoning ordinance.

Reasons for Changes in the Parking System

The COB has a \$60 million Bus Rapid Transit System running in Birmingham, and having density and walkability around the transit stops is critical to supporting the BRT and supporting ridership. It is not conducive for affordable housing. Excessive parking is not sustainable. On the national trend, many cities are looking at eliminating parking minimums.

PEP will present zoning text amendments at the next CAB meeting. The proposed text amendments will be presented to the Planning Commission, Planning and Zoning Committee, Transportation Committee, and City Council. BDOT is currently looking at private parking lots regulations. Following policy changes, updates to parking enforcement will be implemented.

Action Taken:

No Action – Information Only.

VI. Areas of Persistent Poverty Study (AoPP) with Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

Presented by: Jim Ritchey

Jim Ritchey presented information.

The Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham was recently awarded a grant from the USDOT, the study is called Areas of Opportunity – looking to find ways to bring greater opportunities to the community.

The purpose of the study is to empower the City of Birmingham and adjoining communities that are also within the areas of persistent poverty study area. Areas of persistent poverty include Woodlawn, North Birmingham, Fairfield, Lipscomb, and Ensley. There are additional planning grants that have been received by the City: the Reconnecting Communities Work and BCJTA Transit Oriented Study. While transit and transportation are key, economic development and housing are also being considered. The transit is considering six strategies to holistically address poverty, which are: economic development, community advocacy, affordable housing, quality of life, multi-modal connections, and transit. The Western study area/communities include Grasselli, Ensley, Brownville, Fairfield, Midfield, and Lipscomb. The goal of the AoPP is to find projects to piece together that can help address recurring poverty. Public and stakeholder engagement will be continuous over the course of the study. The first stakeholder's meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2023. The plan will focus on three clusters of specific tracts identified as underserved. The timeline has been set for 18 months.

Action Taken:

No Action – Information Only.

VII. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Heager Hill, a member of the Birmingham Parking Authority has officially submitted his resignation. This opens up a position on the Authority. It is a 3-member board with appointments for a two-year term. The requirements are for the person to be a resident and able to vote in the City of Birmingham. For additional information contact Councilor O'Quinn at darrell.oquinn@birminghamal.gov. The Parking Authority meets on the fourth (4th) Thursday of each month.

Action Taken:

No Action – Information Only.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned by the Committee Chair, Councilor O'Quinn.