

JOINT TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE AND SPECIAL CALLED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024 | 2:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MINUTES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL O'QUINN, COMMITTEE CHAIRS
COUNCILORS LATANYA A. TATE & CLINTON P. WOODS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Councilor(s) Present: O'Quinn, Woods

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA / MINUTES – February 26, 2024**

Action Taken:

Councilor Woods Motioned to Approve.

Councilor O'Quinn Seconded the Motion.

The April 8, 2024 Joint Transportation and Special Called Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes were approved as recorded.

III. **New Applicant: Favoride**

Owner: Mylon Dwain Crum

The applicant has met all requirements for approval.

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

IV. **New Applicant: EZ Ride Shuttle Service**

Owner: Juanita Holmes

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

V. **New Applicant: Snow Transportation LLC**

Owner: Leonard Snow

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

VI. **Woodlawn Neighborhood Streetscape**

Presented by: Colin Alexander, BDOT

Colin Alexander presented information to the Committee.

The request is for approval for a funding agreement from ALDOT for a Woodlawn Streetscape project. This is part of the CMAQ Grant that was awarded to the City in 2017 for a streetscape project in the Woodlawn area. It had not been fully scoped and there was no starting point for the project. BDOT has been working in partnership with Capital Projects, as well as REV Birmingham and Woodlawn United to develop the scope of service for the Woodlawn area. This project will include streetscapes, including sidewalks, resurfacing streets, trees along 56th Street from 1st Avenue North to just north of the railroad tracks, 57th Street from 1st Avenue North to the south end just before the railroad track, 59th Street from 1st Avenue North to just north of the railroad tracks, and 61st Street from 1st Avenue North to Georgia Road. There will also be a resurfacing project that will include a two-way cycle track on 1st Avenue South, from 55th Street to 59th Street.

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The scope of service has been reviewed by ALDOT had BDOT has been presented with the preliminary engineering agreement. The total project cost is approximately \$2 million. There is a City match which will come out of the Rebuild Alabama Gas Tax account in the amount of \$431,000.00.

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

VII. Local Roads Safety Initiative (LRSI) Grant

Presented by: Colin Alexander, BDOT

Colin Alexander presented information to the Committee.

This is a standard grant application resolution for another Federal program administered by ALDOT; the Local Road Safety Initiative Program (LRSI). The project is to repair the shoulder and add a guardrail on Wenonah Road in the vicinity of 22nd Street SW. BDOT has hired a firm to do the design work and is moving forward with the application to ALDOT to get the project done. The program is a 90:10 split instead of an 80:20 split.

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

VIII. Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) Grant

Presented by: Colin Alexander, BDOT

Colin Alexander presented information to the Committee.

ATIIP is a one-time funded program for \$45 million nationally designed towards active transportation. BDOT is proposing to apply for a \$15 million project to fill in the gaps in the bike network in areas which create an incohesive network and unsafe situations. BDOT has identified 56 segments across the City. Some will require street resurfacing. Each section will have treatments that are appropriate for the network (bike lanes, cycle tracks, side paths, sidewalk addition/improvement, traffic-calming bike boulevard, etc.). This will create a coherent network through most of the City. Each district will have a coherent network. It is an 80:20 split. BDOT is requesting \$12 million in Federal funds with a \$3 million match.

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

IX. Consolidated Rail Infrastructure & Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant

Presented by: Colin Alexander, BDOT

Colin Alexander presented information to the Committee.

This is an FRA opportunity. The BDOT/City of Birmingham applied for a CRISI grant several years ago for rail crossing elimination in the Woodlawn and Trussville areas. It would include an overpass at Harris Homes, Mary Taylor Road, and closing some crossing in the Woodlawn area. Part of the agreement that was made with elected officials and the community was to lay the groundwork for crossing elimination and improvement on the western side to deal with blocked crossings. The opportunity is an application being put together by the Regional Planning Commission (RPC). BDOT is looking to partner with the Regional Planning Commission, Norfolk Southern, the City of Bessemer, and CXS. BDOT is reaching out to Lipscomb and Midfield to study the rail corridor for both CXS and Norfolk Southern between I-65 and the City of Bessemer. This will be a planning grant that would identify what crossing could have grade separation, what crossings are redundant and need to be closed, and look at potential technological and safety improvements at the remaining crossing to make the entire network safer for drivers. The application is due at the end of May 2024. BDOT is requesting to add \$100,000.00 towards the local match. This is a \$2 million ask that RPC is making with an 80:20 split. Norfolk Southern is contributing \$100,000.00.

Action Taken:

Councilor O'Quinn Motioned to Approve.

Councilor Woods Seconded the Motion.

Item Recommended to the City Council Agenda.

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X. **New & Old Business**

a. **Parking and Towing Ordinance Enforcement – Christina Argo**
Cristina Argo presented information to the Committee.

As it relates to the parking lot permitting system, there are commercial and non-commercial lots that are being reviewed.

Commercial Lots:

- There are 12 lots that have put up new signs.
- There are 10 lots that are pending (they have started the process and are working on details related to the site plans and signage).
- There are approximately 20 additional lots BDOT has not received any applications from.

Non-Commercial Lots (make up the vast majority of parking lots across the City).

- 25 lots have been approved with 10 pending.
- There are over 100 lots to be reviewed.

Action Taken:

No Action – Information Only.

b. **Interstate Lighting Update – Colin Alexander**

- The City of Birmingham, in collaboration with ALDOT and Alabama Power embarked on a project to reestablish interstate lighting at several locations.
- The project is completed from Malfunction Junction to the airport. It included several locations around University Boulevard and Green Springs Highway, back towards Arkadelphia.
- The bigger project was a complete re-build of the network.
- LED lighting was added to the other two sections.
- There are still issues with continued vandalism in the Green Springs and University areas.
- BDOT is in partnership with ALDOT to begin designs on a complete rebuild of the lighting system on I-59 from the airport to the Trussville city limits.
- BDOT has identified five additional corridors of interstate lighting with issues: I-65 between University Boulevard and the Junction and the northern city limits; I-20/59 going to west of Fairfield; I-20 front the split to Irondale and the I-459 corridor. BDOT is working with ALDOT to begin doing assessments with their subcontractor to determine the issue.
- Councilor O'Quinn is receiving reports on theft of copper from commercial and residential property also.
- James Fowlers stated that BDOT has installed some of its first parking lot solar lights in Woodlawn.

Action Taken:

No Action – Information Only.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilor Woods Motioned to Adjourn.

Councilor O'Quinn Seconded the Motion.

Meeting Adjourned.