



Movability Advisory Committee (MAC) – Monday, May 24, 2021 10:30 a.m.

Present Members:

Eleanor Byrd – West Hickory, Transit Advisory Board (Catawba Co.)
R.L. Icard – Foothills Services (Burke Co.)
Jimmy Autrey – Retired School for the Deaf, Downtown Hickory (Catawba Co.)
“Todder” Natosha Clark – Ridgeview Rec Center (Catawba Co.)
Lynn Dorfman – NW Hickory Cyclist (Catawba Co.)
Johnny Scott – CVCC (Catawba Co.)
Doug Gillispie – Public Services (Alexander Co.)
Pam Cook – NCDOT TPD/ TCC (all four counties)
Wendy Cato – Morganton Council / TAC (Burke Co.)
Dean Ledbetter – Division 12 Corridor Development Engineer (Alexander and Catawba)

Present WPCOG Members:

Averi Ritchie – Transportation Planner/ADA Coordinator
Brian Horton – Transportation Manager
Emma Stogner – Transportation Technician

Absent Members:

Mike Norris – McGill Associates (Caldwell County)
Charlotte Eidson – Meeting Place Mission (Burke County)

Notes from Meeting:

*Note: This meeting was an open discussion. More specific items will be addressed at future meetings.

- Ms. Ritchie presented slides on Common Mobility Barriers (curb ramps, crosswalks, driveway cuts, islands, bus stops, sidewalks, signals)
- Ms. Ritchie displayed pictures of each mobility barrier and asked members to share mobility barrier pictures for future discussion
- Ms. Dorfman asked about speed limits on residential roads and smaller thoroughfares; Ms. Cook replied that Complete Streets goal is to address safety for all transportation modes; Mr. Horton added traffic calming can also help reduce speed
- Dr. Scott noted Sandy Ridge Rd as an uncomfortable pedestrian corridor. Others noted that there are not many bus stops along that corridor, however, there are many popular destinations.
- Ms. Clark and Ms. Byrd shared that Ridgeview can be very unsafe for children cycling and walking around the Rec Center. Safety improvements and bike lanes could be added to 1st St, S Center, and 4th St. Lower speed limits could improve S. Center Street.
- Main Ave NW in Hickory was noted as a problem road for pedestrians and transit riders.

- Ms. Dorfman noted debris collection in bike lanes and challenges crossing NC 127
- Mr. Autrey shared that he liked City Walk as a wide facility for cyclists to pass pedestrians – this is much safer for hearing and visually impaired pedestrians
- Mr. Horton noted plans for Ridgeview Walk, formerly known as Book Walk
- Ms. Cook noted the difference between greenways (multi-/shared-use paths) and sidewalks
- Mr. Icard asked if a map of various existing greenways and facilities could be shared
- Ms. Stogner shared she had been working on an interactive regional map of all local bike-ped plans
- Ms. Dorfman asked about cycling surveys; Ms. Ritchie replied that most want bike and pedestrian infrastructure with some separation (known as a multi-use path)

Next Meeting Topics:

- NCDOT Resurfacing Schedules
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Inventory (make note of the region's latest bicycle and pedestrian recommendations)

Next Meeting Date:

The group decided the next meeting would be held in either late September or early October. Ms. Ritchie felt that she would be out on maternity leave until early September.

