



**NOTE: Minutes are draft and have not been reviewed and adopted by BPAC.**

March 21, 2023  
7:00 pm

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92349600233>

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I. **Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions, Excused Absences, Equity and Land Acknowledgements** - 7:03 pm.

*Present:* Michael Shepherd, Michael Moorman, Deniz Aydemir, Susanne Schmal, Ed Rizzuto, Scott Carter, Brian Hawkins, Tyler Dewey, Aidil Ortiz, Charice Mangum, Cesar Castro, Dan Clever, Javiera Caballero, Heidi Carter

*Excused Absences:* Kai Monast

*Absent:* Monica Green, Landon Baucom

*Staff:* Hannah Reynolds, Brian Taylor, Robin Young, Eric Vitale

*Guests:* Cristian Gulisano, Paul Harvin

\*\* Land Acknowledgement read by Susanne Schmal

II. **Adjustments to the Agenda** - 7:13 pm  
- None

III. **Approval of Minutes** - 7:14 pm  
- Motion made to approve by Brian Hawkins, seconded by Scott Carter. Motion approved.

IV. **Public Comments** - 7:15 pm.  
- None

V. **Presentation-** Traffic Calming in Durham, Brian Taylor, City of Durham - 7:17 pm  
- Traffic Calming measures are possible on some state streets but most traffic calming measures are applicable to local city streets.  
- Speed humps are not permitted on emergency routes or those without gutters.  
- Resources and guides, vertical speed control, and horizontal speed control are the traffic calming measures covered.  
- City of Durham Traffic Calming Guidelines from 2017 help to direct based on costs, etc.  
o Resources and Guides

- Horizontal – curb extensions (narrow roadway to slow drivers, slow at turns by tightening it, shorten crosswalks, makes pedestrians more visible to drivers), edge islands (shorten crossing distance, make pedestrians more visible, limited impact on speed), chokers/pinchpoints (curb extension at midblock location, narrowing street, cut through passageways can be provided for cyclists), chicanes (series of curb extensions or parking bays on alternating sides of a street that form an S-shaped travel way), neighborhood traffic circles (reduce vehicle speeds by narrowing turning radii and narrowing travel lanes, higher maintenance costs and requires sufficient dimensions/right of way), medians (may reduce speeding, prevent dangerous passing, refuge for pedestrians), road diets (narrow or remove travel lanes to accommodate biking lanes or parking, dependent on parking demand or presence of vertical protection)
- Vertical – raised area like a speed humps (750 in City of Durham, 3-4 in. tall and 12 feet long), speed cushions (wheel cutouts for larger vehicles, not suitable for streets without curb & gutter, will reduce passenger car speeds), speed tables (longer than speed humps, 22 ft., higher speeds, can be used on emergency routes and on streets without curb and gutter), raised crosswalks (speed tables marked and signed for midblock pedestrian crossings, often combined with curb extensions).
- Current Traffic Calming Projects
  - Speed Humps, Speed Tables, Raised Crosswalks
    - Policy guidelines in place to make your street eligible
    - Durham One Call can take requests. It is then routed through Transportation Dept. to see if it meets the criteria.
    - If the criteria is met, a petition can proceed in the neighborhood to meet the 75% threshold.
    - 15 speed humps or tables installed in last year.
    - Speed cushions in Braggtown installed on Belvin Ave. and Berwyn Ave.
    - Speed tables on Swarthmore Road. 3 speed tables replaced 4 existing speed humps. Primary emergency route, no curb & gutter and no sidewalk. Speed tables more appropriate.
    - Raised crosswalk on Lawson Street – NCCU Bookstore. Primary emergency route, GoDurham Route 8 and NCCU pedestrian traffic.
    - Southside Neighborhood – Enterprise Street has the opportunity for traffic calming that might include raised crosswalk or traffic circles. Plans to be completed in July.
    - Phase 1 neighborhood bike routes, will install traffic circles in several locations.
- Future Traffic Calming
  - FY 24 CIP Request – speed reduction on emergency and transit routes. Main St, Chapel Hill and Chapel Hill Rd. are proposed locations. Start in July 2023, estimated \$400,000.
  - Neighborhood Bike Routes Concept Plan – opportunity to design and construct many traffic calming measures such as diverters, edge islands, chicanes, etc.

- Bike + Walk Implementation Plan – possible updates related to traffic calming in intersection recommendations, identify network of bike Bull-wards on local streets and short term sidewalk/shared use path projects.
- Vision Zero For All Grant – budget request from transportation for Vision Zero coordinator.
- Update to Traffic Calming Guidelines – no immediate plan but it is needed. Would be good to have more measures available as well as an update on traffic calming concerns.
- Traffic Calming Program Examples in Raleigh
  - Usually requests are submitted by citizens.
  - Scoring that takes place to gauge what calming measures are priorities and then a project building analysis takes place as well as buy in from residents.
  - Residents vote on ballot and approved for construction.
  - 19 projects going to construction including speed humps, speed cushions, enhance crossings, medians, etc.
- Questions:
  - Cost of traffic calming guideline update? Not that expensive, the broader overhaul would create more measures to design overall and what the updated policy would recommend. The policy update itself would not be the heavy lift, it is the labor it creates afterwards.
  - Does Durham ever use the “your speed” signs that show a car’s speed vs. the speed limit? Durham does use these but they have limited availability and there are 2-3 that are moved around the city. Usually follow the latest complaint on speeding.
- **Committee Reports - 8:03 pm**
- *Education, Encouragement and Engagement Committee Report (Susanne Schmal)*
  - Proposed date in April (13<sup>th</sup>) for joint meeting on all committees. Need to discuss and coordinate.
  - Partnership follows up with Bike Walk, Durham Public Schools, etc. Invitations are out.
  - Follow up with community members who have brought public comment. Planning to meet with Aspen to do neighborhood walk through to elevate concerns / learn more about the issue.
  - EEE is going to continue testing this out and keeping in contact with community members bringing concerns to the meeting.
  - Working on walk audit from retreat and highlight some of the observations from the group.
  - Question: Is it worth printing and circulating flyers to local businesses, etc., to publicize the meeting dates and get interest in BPAC?
  - Upcoming events: April 22 Earth Day, bike valet partnership with Bike Durham.
  - Can we donate \$250 to Bike Durham for Bike Month for bike to work fuel stations, etc.

- *We did bring this to a vote for a donation. Scott Carter made a motion for the \$250 donation, Mike Shepherd seconded it. Motion was approved.*
- Also request for permission to highlight the member profiles on the website and social media.
- *Development Review Committee Report (Dan Clever)*
  - Finalized comments on transportation actions for Comprehensive Plan.
  - Provided comments on three development plans. Asked for some kind of transit facility for those on bus lines, etc.
  - Dan was OK with the date but afraid that we might run out of time, might need a “spill over” meeting.
- *Bike & Pedestrian Plan Implementation / Evaluation Committee Report (Michael Moorman)*
  - 11 attendees including community members.
  - Spent much of time discussing recent bike crashes.
  - Hope Valley Elementary access was another topic brought up by community members.
  - Spent time discussing how to triage items brought up and how to follow up on them after the meetings.
- *Updates from Liaisons:*
  - *Durham City Council - (Javiera Caballero)*
    - City retreat had section for priorities to be considered. Vision Zero coordinator moved forward in that phase. Good first step to realizing this.
    - Intention is to keep the buses fare-free for the immediate future.
  - *Durham Board of County Commissioners (Heidi Carter)*
    - No definitive answer on benefit issues between City and County. Asked that benefits be standardized across the city and county committees.
  - *Duke University (Tyler Dewey)*
    - Trying to get updated mobility plan focused on integrating e-bikes and scooters into the campus transportation model.
  - *NC Central University (TBD) –*
    - New representative is being appointed.
  - *Comprehensive Plan (Aidil Ortiz and Ed Rizzuto)*
    - Online survey closes this week. 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation of the plan to the planning commission takes place next week.
- *Other Community Updates (All)*

- None

VI. **Old Business – 8:31 pm**

- Bike valet for Bike Durham at Earth Day April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Need volunteers.
- May 6<sup>th</sup> is Bike Kickoff that Bike Durham is doing. Also need volunteers for this. Will be BPAC tent there.
- *Review of Presentation Topics*
  - Healthy Mile Trail as future meeting topic. Might be a good presentation for future meeting to talk about potentially setting up a trail in the community (Susanne Schmal).
    - Hannah added some details on current trails and conditions that must be met to qualify as a sponsored trail. The program is currently trying to expand and could be an opportunity for Durham BPAC to sponsor a trail.
  - Year of the Trail. Scott Carter brought this up and would like to hear from local authorities about what funding might be available, what events might be planned, etc.
    - Hannah indicated that Durham Parks and Rec have been planning activities around it. Large event in June is already scheduled.

VII. **New Business - 8:45 pm.**

- Review of the draft comprehensive plan and our additions/ changes. Our draft was sent earlier to beat the deadline for submission.
  - Motion to approve by Brian Hawkins to approve the comments on the transportation actions of the comprehensive plan, seconded by Tyler Dewey. Motion approved.
- April 13<sup>th</sup> is tentatively planned as the joint meeting for all sub committees in April.
- Hannah Reynolds spoke about the Google Drive for the group. This might help with the collaboration in the committee meetings. [DurhamBPAC@gmail.com](mailto:DurhamBPAC@gmail.com) can be used for this.

VIII. **Announcements and Updates - 8:59 pm**

- Hannah Reynolds – there is position for City Youth Representative spot posted. Open until April 13<sup>th</sup>.

IX. **Communication Priorities from Meeting and Committees - 9:01 pm**

- Volunteers for Earth Day Festival or Bike Month kick off.
- April 13<sup>th</sup> joint meeting with committees.
- EEE update on Healthy Mile trail representative.

**Adjourn - 9:02 pm**