

**BLOOMINGTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
AGENDA**

October 25, 2023

**5:00 P.M. –In-person and Virtual Hybrid meeting
City Hall, Council Chambers**

Online link: <https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/6359441221>

Meeting ID: 635 944 1221

Passcode: COBPT

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. September 27, 2023
- III. Communications from Commission**
- IV. Public Comment***
- V. Reports from Staff**
 - A. Staff Led: Advisory Transportation Commission Proposal
- VI. Old Business***
- VII. New Business***
 - A. Feedback Requested from Boards and Commissions - Traffic Commission Letter
- VIII. Traffic Inquiries:**
- IX. Adjournment:**

Next meeting – November 15, 2023 – City Council Chambers

**Action Requested/Public comment prior to any vote (limited to five minutes per speaker)*

Auxiliary aids for people with disabilities are available upon request with adequate notice. Please call (812) 349-3429 or e-mail human.rights@bloomington.in.gov.

**BLOOMINGTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES**

September 27, 2023

**4:30 P.M. –In-person and Virtual Hybrid meeting
City Hall, Council Chambers**

Online link: <https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/6359441221>

Meeting ID: 635 944 1221

Passcode: COBPT

Dial in: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

A. June 28, 2023 – Tabled

B. August 23, 2023 – Motion: Ryterband Second: Alexander 7 – 0 Approved

III. Communications from Commission

A. Alexander stated his intent to introduce a resolution for Engineering staff to review speed limits on Woodlawn Ave.

B. Ryterband expressed concern about the new blockage of the B-line at the 3rd Street bridge. Ryterband also expressed that the detour is problematic and lacks proper signage.

i. Cibor stated that Parks and Engineering have worked on a plan for developments on the B-line. Cibor stated that Engineering will take a look at the detour and work being completed.

C. Cibor gave an update on the Southern Drive resolution from the last meeting. A condition was included in the approval vote that required that adequate notice was given to the residents.

D. Cibor gave an update on upcoming Council Agenda items.

IV. Public Comment*

A. Eric Ost discussed the scooter crash on Woodlawn. Ost expressed a desire for Traffic Commission to propose a resolution to limit left hand turns from the bike lane.

i. Shadday and Burns echoed the comment sentiment. Further discussion ensued.

V. Reports from Staff

A. Feedback Requested from Boards and Commissions - Traffic Commission

i. At the Traffic Commission meeting, staff provided background information regarding the request and offered to gather the Commission's comments. They proposed writing a letter on the Commission's behalf, which would be reviewed at the next meeting.

VI. Old Business*

VII. New Business*

VIII. Traffic Inquiries:

- A. Alley Traffic Usage Request to Make Portion of Alley Pedestrian Only – *Ryan Robling, Planning Services Manager*
- B. Galen Cassaday gave a statement on behalf of the petitioner. Cassaday explained the history of the site, safety concerns, and desire to close the alley to vehicular traffic.
- C. Ryterband asked that staff measure the alley and asked for additional details on the ability for utilities to encroach into to alley.
- D. Burns asked about deliveries if the alley were to be closed to vehicles
 - i. Cassaday explained the current use of the Forth and Washington surface lot by
- E. Ryterband expressed a desire for a delivery limitation ordinance to prevent trucks from blocking travel lanes, parking lanes, etc.

IX. Adjournment: 5:30 pm



**TRAFFIC COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT****Date:** October 2023

FROM: Ryan Robling, Planning Services Manager, Planning and Transportation Department**REGARDING:** Staff Led: Advisory Transportation Commission Proposal.

(1) Purpose. The Advisory Transportation Commission (hereinafter referred to as “ATC”) is established with the explicit purpose of guiding the city’s transportation endeavors through a comprehensive and visionary framework which seeks to provide adequate and safe access to all right-of-way users. The ATC shall provide recommendations and guidance to the mayor and common council in the pursuit of developing and implementing a city-wide policy to eliminate all transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries to pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, motorists, and passengers; shall promote sustainable and multimodal transportation; shall foster equitable access; and shall promote deliberate integration of community-centric design. The ATC shall also serve as a standing steering committee for future transportation related studies and grant programs.

(2) Appointments. The ATC shall consist of nine members. The nine members shall be comprised of the nine members of the SS4A steering committee at the time of this ordinance’s approval, after which appointments to the ATC shall take place in the following manner:

- a. One member appointed by the mayor shall be a board member or designated representative from the council for community accessibility;
- b. One member appointed by the mayor shall be a member of the board of public safety or a designated representative appointed from within the Bloomington Police Department, or Bloomington Fire Department;
- c. One member appointed by the plan commission shall be a member or a designated representative;
- d. One member appointed by the board of public works shall be a member or a designated representative;
- e. One member appointed by the common council shall be from among its membership;
- f. Four members shall be appointed by the council, and shall be residents living within the city limits. Preference for appointments shall be given to persons belonging to the Bloomington/Monroe County human rights commission; board members or employees of Monroe County Community School Corporation; board members or employees of nonprofit organizations which operate at property that is owned or leased by the non-profit organization within city limits; and members of community organizations dedicated to serving marginalized groups.



(3) Terms. The initial terms of the nine members of the SS4A steering committee at the time of this ordinance's approval shall expire on January 31st 2025, after which appointments and terms shall be in accordance with this section. Members appointed from the membership of the council for community accessibility, board of public safety, board of public works, and common council shall serve a term coextensive with their terms on the body from which they were appointed or until that body appoints another at its first regular meeting of the year. An appointee not serving on a body, but appointed as its representative shall serve a four-year term. Members appointed by common council not among its membership shall serve a two-year term.

(4) Powers and Duties. The ATC powers and duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- a. Coordinate, supervise, and, when necessary, approve transportation related studies, activities, programs, and projects, including acting as a standing steering committee for future transportation related studies and grant programs.
- b. Review all proposed changes to Title 15 - Vehicles and Traffic, as well as any relevant proposed changes to Title 12 - Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewers or other applicable changes to the Bloomington Municipal Code to determine if the proposed change:
 - i. is consistent with the comprehensive plan;
 - ii. is consistent with the best practices for eliminating all transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries within the city;
 - iii. is consistent with promoting sustainable design, and equitable access to all transportation facility users; and
 - iv. has provided for community-based solutions and allowed for adequate public input.
- c. Provide a forum for members of the public to submit transportation-related request;
- d. Conduct education activities in matters related to transportation safety in an effort to both eliminate all transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries, and promote multimodal transportation within the city.
- e. Make recommendations on public parking policy, including but not limited to: pricing, hours of operation, addition or removal of parking spaces, and changes when necessary to city code, enforcement procedures, or any other aspect of parking management policy;
- f. Applying for appropriations through the mayor, or researching and applying for grants, gifts, or other funds from public or private agencies, for the purpose of carrying out any of the provisions of this section.

(5) Procedure and Scheduling. The ATC shall establish its own rules and procedures, subject to amendment by a majority vote. This shall include the ability to define its meeting schedule within the scope of the established rules and procedures.

(6) Staff. The commission shall be primarily staffed by the engineering department. When serving as a steering committee the ATC shall be staffed by the planning and transportation department.



TRAFFIC COMMISSION**Date:** October 25, 2023

Dear Special Committee on Council Processes,

In response to your inquiry regarding the purpose, duties, and potential revisions to the Traffic Commission's activities, we would like to offer our thoughts and feedback. The Traffic Commission has encountered challenges in its goal of educating the community about traffic matters. We firmly believe that educating people about the city's expectations for behavior, road safety, and the proper use of transportation infrastructure is crucial. It is evident to the Traffic Commission that there is a lack of adequate education, and we acknowledge that this is an area where significant improvements could be made to the Traffic Commission itself.

In response to the Special Committee on Council Processes and the Novak report's potential proposal to streamline and consolidate the various commissions involved in traffic and transportation-related matters. As members of the Traffic Commission, the idea of forming a single transportation commission is of particular interest to us, as we see numerous potential benefits.

We acknowledge that there are potentially challenges that each of the individual commissions face. For example, the Bike and Pedestrian Safety Commission has taken on extra responsibilities related to traffic calming. Additionally, the Parking Commission has faced difficulties in fulfilling its obligation to produce annual reports, which have been exacerbated by frequent vacancies. In light of these challenges, we would be open to considering the recommendations in the Novak report to enhance the efficiency of traffic-related efforts.

We also have a strong desire to prioritize the safety of our community. Safety concerns, especially with regard to traffic calming, should be treated as a top priority. We consider this a fundamental responsibility of both the Traffic Commission and the City, and we firmly believe that safety measures should be reviewed and if determined to increase traffic safety, should be implemented.

Additionally, we concur that efficiency is crucial, both in terms of staff time and addressing various transportation issues. The idea of merging the existing commissions into a single, integrated board or commission appears to be the most efficient approach. Traffic, parking, and biking are interconnected components of a larger transportation puzzle. Through this consolidation, we believe that we can achieve a more holistic and better-integrated approach to transportation planning.

In conclusion, our main objective is to ensure that, regardless of the decision to consolidate commissions, the recommendations and solutions discussed at the commission level are acted upon by the Common Council. We want to ensure that our collective efforts result in meaningful change and improvements in our community.

Sincerely,

Ryne Shadday
Traffic Commission Chairperson