



City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission

2021 Annual Report

CONTENTS

TRIBUTE TO LINDA DIANE FELDT.....	pg 1
AT A GLANCE.....	pg 2
FOREWORD.....	pg 3
MOTIONS & ACTIONS.....	pg 5
FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS & PRESENTATIONS.....	pg 8
REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS.....	pg 11
ATTACHMENTS.....	pg 14



TRIBUTE TO LINDA DIANE FELDT

"Her legacy is improved access, equity, and safety throughout the City"

"Backbone to the Transportation Commission"

"A model of advocacy"

"She gave the Commission power"

"Gentle yet forceful"

"Demonstrated the importance of digging into the process"



The 2021 Annual Report is dedicated to beloved Commissioner Linda Diane Feldt who passed away in November 2021. Linda Diane's impacts on the community are vast and will be positively felt for generations. In addition to numerous worthwhile causes, she was a founding member and chair of the Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force (2014-2015) as well as the Transportation Commission (established 2017). As a lifetime resident of Ann Arbor and highly engaged community advocate for pedestrian and bicyclist safety, she has touched the lives of many, including those she worked with directly through service on boards, commissions, task forces and advisory committees. And she has touched the lives of all of us who use Ann Arbor's transportation systems by advocating tirelessly for safety and improvements to transportation policy and infrastructure.

AT A GLANCE

By the Numbers

12

Monthly Meetings

12

Motions and Actions

24

Presentations

52

Written public communications

6

Special Committee Meetings

3

Reports or Recommendations to
City Council

FOREWORD

From Commission Chair Molly Kleinman

The last year remained extraordinarily challenging for our community as the COVID-19 pandemic raged on. We would be remiss to reflect on the work of the Transportation Commission in 2021 without first acknowledging the ongoing pain of the pandemic, and the losses of so many lives and livelihoods both in Ann Arbor and around the world. Likewise I want to recognize the parallel public health crisis of increasing traffic violence and driver aggression, along with a rise in deaths of vulnerable road users across the U.S. Every life is precious. Let us do everything we can to keep each other safe.

The Transportation Commission has continued to work effectively with City Council and staff to help move Ann Arbor toward our transportation safety, inclusion, accessibility, and Vision Zero goals. The Commission plays an important part in Ann Arbor's planning and policy process, and Commissioners bring a wide range of expertise and experience to help the city address transportation challenges, decision making, and future planning. Details of our work are contained in this report, and a few highlights are below.

Personal Mobility Ordinance

Members of the Transportation Commission worked with city staff for several years to develop updates to the relevant city ordinance that would expand the types of vehicle permitted in bike lanes and on sidewalks. The new ordinance uses flexible language that accommodates scooters and ebikes, as well as other types of micromobility device that roll through in the future.

Winter Sidewalk Maintenance

Sidewalks are a key part of our transportation infrastructure. Building on the work of the Pedestrian Safety and Access Task Force that precedes us, this year the Transportation Commission provided input and recommendations for Ann Arbor to centralize and improve its approach to ensuring that sidewalks are clear and accessible all year round.

Healthy Streets

In the second year of the Covid-19 pandemic, Ann Arbor put forward a revised version of the Healthy Streets program started in the summer of 2020. This year the program focused on road reconfigurations that could be permanent or could serve as pilots for future permanent changes. Members of the Transportation Commission provided feedback and recommendations to City Council encouraging the adoption of Healthy Streets, gave suggestions for improving street configurations, and reviewed preliminary data on the program. Despite unfortunate delays in implementation of the program, these early data already suggest that the 2021 Healthy Streets program resulted in improved safety for all road users.

FOREWORD CONTINUED

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as Transportation Commission chair this year. Though our city and country are still in the thick of the pandemic, with many challenges yet to come, I look forward to continuing to serve out my term as chair, and to work in partnership with City Council to build back better and safer for all road users.

*- Transportation Commission Chair
Molly Kleinman*

2021 Commission Members Voting Members

Molly Kleinman - Chair
Julie Boland - Vice-Chair
Areli Balderrama
Erica Briggs - Councilmember
Linda Diane Feldt
Bret Hautamaki
Tim Hull - Commission on
Disability Issues Representative
Wonwoo Lee - Planning
Commission Representative
Bradley Parsons
Bryan Smith - AAATA
Representative
Jim Summers - Transportation
Business Owner

Non-voting

Steve Dolen - University of
Michigan
Raymond Hess - Transportation
Manager
Nicholas Hutchinson - City
Administrator Designee
Liz Margolis - AAPS
Lt. Mike Scherba - Chief of Police
Designee
Ben Stupka - Regional Transit
Authority



Nick Hutchinson, City Engineer



Raymond Hess (he/him), Transportation Manager



Molly Kleinman (she/her)



Timothy Hull



CM Erica Briggs (she/her)



Julie Boland



Scherba, Mike



Bret Hautamaki



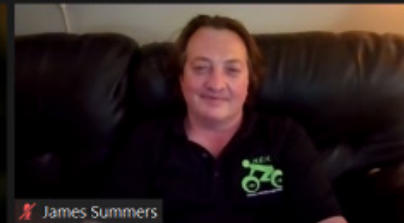
Wonwoo Lee



Areli Ariana (They/Them)



Bryan D. Smith (he/him/his)



James Summers

MOTIONS & ACTIONS

January 20

2020 Annual Report

A motion was made by Feldt, seconded by Boland, that the Transportation Commission 2020 Annual Report be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 2/16/2021. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Healthy Streets Committee

A motion was made by Boland, seconded by Councilmember Briggs, that the Transportation Commission establish the Healthy Streets Committee, approve the proposed charter as amended and and approve the following commissioners to serve on the committee:

Areli Balderrama, Councilmember Briggs, Bret Hautamaki, and Molly Kleinman. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Chair and Vice Chair Re-election

A motion was made by Councilmember Briggs, seconded by Hautamaki, to Approve the election of Kleinman as Chair and Boland as Vice Chair. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Seventh Street Process Committee Recommendations

A motion was made by Parsons, seconded by Feldt, that the Seventh Street Process Committee Recommendations be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 2/16/2021. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

FY22 Transportation Commission Policy Agenda Input

A motion was made by Parsons, seconded by Boland, that the Transportation Commission FY22 Policy Agenda Recommendations be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 2/16/2021. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried with a No Vote by Balderrama.

February 17

Winter Sidewalk Maintenance Resolution

A motion was made by Hautamaki, seconded by Balderrama, that Transportation Commission endorses the goal of municipal sidewalk snow removal and views this as an urgent need requiring priority for City funding and planning and the Resolution be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 3/1/2021. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried

March 17

Resolution to Request that the City Administrator Determine the Cost and Feasibility of Supplemental Snow and Ice Removal of our Pedestrian Infrastructure to Improve Pedestrian Safety within the DDA Boundaries

A motion was made by Feldt, seconded by Hautamaki, that the Transportation Commission believes that R-21-084 fulfills the goals of the resolution passed by the Transportation Commission February 17, 2021, and therefore the Transportation Commission believes that no further action on 2/16/21 Resolution to Determine Cost and Feasibility of Supplemental Snow and Ice Removal is needed from City Council at this time. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declares the motion carried.

MOTIONS & ACTIONS CONTINUED

April 20

Healthy Streets

A motion was made by Hautamaki, seconded by Boland, that the Transportation Commission recommends the Resolution to award contract to the appropriate bidder for the 2021 Healthy Streets Deployment; and to Appropriate the necessary funds from the Major Street Fund Operations and City of Ann Arbor Maintenance Budget and from the Minor Street Fund Operations and Maintenance Budget' be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 5/3/2021. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Ann Arbor Moving Together Towards Vision Zero

A motion was made by Councilmember Briggs, seconded by Lee, that the Ann Arbor Transportation Commission recommends that the City Planning Commission and City Council adopt The Ann Arbor Moving Together Towards Vision Zero – City of Ann Arbor Comprehensive Transportation Plan as an element of the City of Ann Arbor Master Plan, and repeals the previous documents that this update replaces the The Ann Arbor Transportation Plan – 2009 and The Non-Motorized Transportation Plan – 2007 and Update 2013. This motion shall be forwarded to City Council and should be returned by 6/7/2021. On a unanimous voice vote, the Transportation Commission Chair declared the motion carried.

May 19

Personal Mobility Ordinance

A motion was made by Hautamaki, seconded by Boland, that the personal mobility ordinance be Approved as amended by the Commission and Forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 7/20/2021. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried.

Healthy Street Committee - Francisco Statement of Interest

A motion was made by Boland, seconded by Parsons, that the appointment of Rachel Francisco to the Healthy Streets Committee be Approved. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried by the Commission.

Michigan Drive Safe Bill Transportation Commission Recommendations

A motion was made by Parsons, seconded by Balderrama, that the Resolution in Support of Michigan Senate Bills 433 and 434 of 2021 and Michigan House of Representatives Bills HB4835 and HB4836 of 2021 be Approved as amended by the Commission and Forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 6/21/2021. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried by the Commission.

MOTIONS & ACTIONS CONTINUED

June 16

No motions or actions were taken at this meeting

July 21

No motions or actions were taken at this meeting

August 18

No motions or actions were taken at this meeting

September 15

No motions or actions were taken at this meeting

October 20

No motions or actions were taken at this meeting

November 17

Winchell/Brockman Sidewalk Project

A motion was made by Hautamaki, seconded by Balderrama, to recommend removal of parking along Winchell/Brockman as spelled out in the draft resolution included in the packet. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

2022 Meeting Dates Calendar

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Hull, to approve the meeting schedule as presented and discussed and shifting the December 2022 meeting to Thursday 12/15/22 at 4pm. On a unanimous voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

December 15

East Center Medical Drive Bridge Project: Support of Configuration 1a

A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Briggs, to support the configuration shown in figure 1a. On a 2-6 vote, the motion was NOT passed.

East Center Medical Drive Bridge Project: Support of Configuration 1b

A motion was made by Hautamaki, seconded by Briggs, to support the configuration shown in figure 1b. On a 3-5 vote, the motion was NOT passed.

FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS & PRESENTATIONS



January 15

Neighborhood Slow Streets - Raymond Hess

February 19

Transit-Supported Zoning - Alexis DiLeo

Healthy Streets - Raymond Hess

Municipal Sidewalk Snow Removal - Erica Briggs and Molly Kleinman

March 17

Street Resurfacing and Related Projects for 2021 - Dave Dykman

TheRide's Service Restoration Plan - Bryan Smith

April 20

Presentation of the FY22-23 Budget - Marti Praschan

FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS & PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

May 19

Overview of the Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant Application Process - Cynthia Redinger

Quick Build Projects - Cynthia Redinger

June 16

Overview of the DDA Project Updates - Bob Doyle

Update on the Capital Improvements Plan - Cynthia Redinger

July 21

Speed Reduction Committee Recommendations
Raymond Hess

Report on Sharrows and Signage - Anna Pasek
and Sydney Weisman

August 18

Annual Crash Report - Cynthia Redinger

Fatal Crash Review and Discussion -
Cynthia Redinger and Lieutenant Mike
Scherba

Advisory Bike Lanes - Raymond Hess



FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS & PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

September 15

Winter Sidewalk Maintenance - John Fournier

Lower Town Final Recommendations - Luke Liu

University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute UMTRI - Dr.
James Sayer

October 20

The Ride Long Range Plans - Bryan Smith and Forest Yang

May Mobility - Allison Hegarty and Omar Shaikh

November 17

Winchell/Brockman Sidewalk Project - Francesca Chan

East Center Medical Drive Bridge Project - Nick Hutchinson

Pavement Condition - Nick Hutchinson

December 15

East Medical Center Drive Bridge Project - Nick Hutchinson and Francesca Chan

January 20

Transportation Commission 7th Street Evaluation Committee Recommendations

The Transportation Commission recommended that Council provide direction and budget for staff to implement the following recommendations:

- 1. Collect systematic data for arterial streets, make data-driven recommendations, and pursue street improvements in locations that are likely to have a large impact.
- 2. Broaden the application of existing quick build/paint-and-post tools to mediate speed on arterial streets.
- 3. Develop a Major Street Calming initiative
- 4. Explore means of local driver education.
- 5. Explore conceptual level design for All Ages and Abilities bike facility along 7th St. Present design to the community and develop further if there is public support.

Process Improvements learned from the 7th Street Speed Calming Effort

- 1. Limit ad hoc responses to resident complaints
- 2. Establish formal projects with dedicated budget and resources.
- 3. Develop clear goals that can be evaluated, and schedule the evaluation timeline at the beginning of the project: "beginning with the end in mind."
- 4. Empower and retain city staff so that there is continuity of planning and engagement.
- 5. Develop community engagement/public education strategies to promote education and awareness

The 7th Street Process Recommendations were provided as a communication item to City Council on February 16, 2021

May 19

Amendments to Proposed Personal Mobility Ordinance

The Transportation Commission approved the following amendments to the Proposed Personal Mobility Ordinance:

- Clarified definition of personal mobility vehicle: self-propelled, not required to be registered
- Increased downtown signage
- Established disposal time frame of unclaimed vehicles
- Regulations for autonomous delivery robots

The Personal Mobility Ordinance was provided as a communication item to City Council July 20, 2021

The Personal Mobility Ordinance passed at City Council on September 20, 2021

Resolution in Support of Michigan Senate Bills 433 and 434 of 2021 Michigan House of Representatives Bills HB4835 and HB4836 of 2021

The Transportation Commission made revisions and recommendations to the resolution and forwarded the resolution to City Council as follows:

Whereas, Granting drivers licenses and state IDs to undocumented immigrants is an important part of making our streets safer for

Whereas, There are people in Ann Arbor who would legally be allowed to drive, but are currently restricted from obtaining a driver's license or state ID because of their immigration status;

Whereas, It is in everyone's interest that all drivers are trained, screened, and tested, to ensure that they are familiar with Michigan driving regulations;

Whereas, Driver's licenses and state IDs remain default forms of identification, and lacking a driver's license or state ID makes it much more difficult to raise a family, go to school, contribute to the state economy, and access housing and healthcare;

Whereas, When everyone who is legally allowed to drive can obtain a driver's license our streets will be safer for immigrant drivers and their families, and safer for all road users by ensuring that everyone driving is trained and licensed to do so;

Whereas, Senate Bills 433 and 434 of 2021 and House of Representatives Bills HB4835 and HB4836 of 2021 would restore the rights of everyone who would be eligible to obtain a driver's license or state ID in Michigan, including undocumented immigrants;

RESOLVED, Ann Arbor Transportation Commission supports Michigan Senate Bills 433 and 434 of 2021 and Michigan House of Representatives Bills HB4835 and HB4836 of 2021; and

RESOLVED, Ann Arbor Transportation Commission supports Michigan Senate Bills 433 and 434 of 2021 and Michigan House of Representatives Bills HB4835 and HB4836 of 2021; and

RESOLVED that the Ann Arbor Transportation Commission recommends that City Council pass a resolution in support of immediate passage of Senate Bills 433 and 434 of 2021 and Michigan House of Representatives Bills HB4835 and HB4836 of 2021 to ensure that all drivers are eligible to be trained, screened, and tested, to ensure that they are familiar with Michigan driving regulations.

The Transportation Commission Resolution to the Michigan Drive Safe Bills was provided as a communication item to City Council on June 21, 2021

ATTACHMENT A

Transportation Commission Ordinance

1:207. - Transportation Commission.

(1) The Transportation Commission is established to foster excellence in the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of a sustainable and resilient multimodal transportation network for the City of Ann Arbor. The Transportation Commission will serve as an advisory body to the City Council and the City Administrator on transportation policy with a focus on accessibility, mobility, equity, and safety for all citizens.

(2) The Transportation Commission shall consist of 11 voting members. Appointments should be of individuals who, insofar as is possible, have an interest in the various forms and modes of transportation needs of the community. Members shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council unless otherwise stated.

(a) To support a holistic evaluation of the community's concerns, the voting members of the Transportation Commission shall be as follows:

1. Six members of the public.
2. One owner or operator of a transportation business operating in Ann Arbor.
3. One member of the Planning Commission, appointed by the Planning Commission.
4. One member of the Commission on Disability Issues, appointed by the Commission on Disability Issues.
5. One individual appointed by the board of the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority.
6. One member of the City Council.

(b) The City Administrator, the Transportation Manager, and the Chief of Police shall be nonvoting members of the Transportation Commission. The City Administrator shall designate staffing to support the Transportation Commission.

(c) The Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan, the University of Michigan, and the Ann Arbor Public Schools may each appoint one nonvoting member to the Transportation Commission.

(d) Unless otherwise stated in this subsection, voting members of the Transportation Commission shall be appointed to three-year terms, which shall be staggered so that approximately one third of the terms expire each year. Initial terms may be for less than three years so that the terms are staggered. The City Council member shall be appointed for a one-year term in the same manner as for City Council committee appointments. Members appointed by other City boards or commissions shall continue to serve until they are no longer members of the appointing board or commission or until the appointing board or commission appoints a different member. The member appointed by the board of the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority shall continue to serve until the board appoints a different member.

(3) The Transportation Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) Advise the City Council and City Administrator on:

1. Transportation grants.
2. Streets and highways.
3. The use of, restrictions on, and upkeep of public rights-of-way.
4. Bus and rail service.
5. Pedestrian and bikeway programs and projects

- 6.Safety-related programs and projects.
- 7.Regulation of vehicles for hire, including taxicabs, transportation network and ride-sharing entities, pedicabs, and other transportation vehicles; and all related matters including permits, annual permits, franchise permits, transportation franchise requests, renewals, rate adjustments, and hours of operation.

- (b) Provide comments to the Planning Commission, City Council, Downtown Development Authority, and the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority on transportation policy, and the impact of proposed projects to the same.
- (c) Recommend to the City Council and the City Administrator priorities and budget allocations related to transportation.
- (d) Provide recommendations on the City's transportation master plans including the City Transportation Plan and Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.
- (e) Report annually to the City Council and the City Administrator regarding the activities of the Transportation Commission, which shall reflect the effectiveness of the city's transportation strategy process and make recommendations for any changes thereto.
- (f) Make proposals and recommendations to achieve and maintain a holistic and inclusive transportation ecosystem that meets the mobility needs of all people, including the mobilityimpaired.
- (g) Form special purpose task forces and subcommittees to carry out the business of the commission.
- (h) Perform other duties as directed by City Council.

(Ord. No. 16-26, § 1, 11-21-16; Ord. No. 18-23, § 1, 9-17-18)

ATTACHMENT B

Commissioner Involvement in City Process

Julie Boland

August 15 - September 15, 2021

Member of the Vision Zero Selection Committee that interviewed and evaluated three consultant proposals for Vision Zero Implementation Plan

Please visit a2gov.org/transportationcommission for more information

A WORD FROM COMMISSIONER WONWOO LEE

"In my first year with the transportation commission, I've been impressed with the level of expertise and dedication of city staff and fellow commissioners in promoting safer and healthier streets. I cannot say enough great things about city staff's professionalism in preparation for our meetings with relevant study guides, comparative case studies, and thorough research.



2022 will be an exciting period for improving community engagement for our A2 Vision Zero Transportation Plan, improving our city services with respect to potential sidewalk snow maintenance, sidewalk gaps, and more. With ambitious goals for reducing carbon footprint and improving safety and accessibility, I am confident in our community's ability to meet these challenges. I am honored to be a part of a community dedicated to improving health, safety, and access for all."

THANK YOU FOR READING!