Name of Board/ Commission: Transportation Advisory Board
Date of Meeting: September 9, 2019
Contact Information Preparing Summary: Meredith Schleske 303.441.3204
Board Members Present: Bill Rigler; Johnny Drozdek; Tila Duhaime; Mark McIntyre; Alex Weinheimer
Board Members Absent:
Staff Present: Kathleen Bracke, GO Boulder Manager and Interim Co-Director of Public Works for Transportation
Bill Cowern, Principal Traffic Engineer and Interim Co-Director of Public Works for Transportation
David Kemp, Senior Transportation Planner
Gerrit Slatter, Principal Transportation Projects Engineer
Mark Shisler, Transportation Engineer
Randall Rutsch, Senior Transportation Planner
Amy Lewin, Senior Transportation Planner
Chris Hagelin, Senior Transportation Planner
Danny O’Conner, Senior Transportation Planner
Allison Crump, Employee Transportation Coordinator
Jessica Guitar, Transportation Planner
Meghan Wilson, Communications Manager
Meredith Schleske, Board Secretary
Type of Meeting: Advisory/ Regular
Agenda Item 1: Call to Order [6:02 p.m.]
Agenda Item 2: Approval of minutes from August 2019
Motion: approve minutes from August 2019 [6:02 p.m.]
Motion: Duhaime Second: Drozdek
5:0:0 Motion Passes
Agenda Item 3: Public Comment [6:03 p.m.]
- Gary Peterson – Change Green Streets to repurposed streets or clean streets. We need to move on from bike lanes on busy streets (it was great 20 years ago) and move forward to clean streets for all non-emitting transportation modes.
- Sabrina Halsey – in support of friend Clara who was recently hit in school crosswalk, beg you to do more for safe biking for kids. We should not have to worry about safe travel to school.
- Brent Halsey – Referred to Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) feedback on Pedestrian Plan, urges pedestrian safety for vulnerable users in a wide age range. Boulder purports to put pedestrians first but that’s not true right now. Regarding the proposed Transportation Master Plan (TMP), supports more car-free spaces and “20 is plenty” speed limits. Hope Boulder will be a leader.
- Michael Tompkins – Clara’s father. Issue is density of cars and children over short period of time. Crosswalk is well designed. Recommends looking at these crosswalks, make it possible for parents to organize as crossing guards.

TAB Questions
o Questions regarding motorist action.
  o Comment regarding hug n’ go lane at Whittier Elementary, volunteer crossing guards, one-time PTA expenditure for orange vests and cones, video available. TMP update proposes citywide crossing guard effort. Tompkins appreciates mechanism.
  o Invitation to Halseys and Tompkins to attend City Council TMP meeting.

Agenda Item 4: Monthly Update – Safe Streets Boulder Engineering Update [6:16 p.m.]
There were no questions.
Executive Summary

This agenda item is a public hearing of the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) regarding the 2019 Transportation Master Plan (TMP), the 2019 Boulder Pedestrian Plan and their supporting materials. Staff is seeking a recommendation from TAB to bring forward to City Council for formal acceptance of the TMP at their September 17, 2019 council meeting. These documents reflect the technical work, policy guidance from the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), input from other Boards and advisory committees, and the public engagement process of the last 18 months.

Significant changes reflected in the proposed 2019 TMP include:

- Enhanced emphasis on safety, with a prominent commitment to Vision Zero as identified in the 2019 Vision Zero Boulder Safe Streets Report.
- Accelerated 2030 plan horizon responding to the climate crisis and the Climate Commitment target of a 50% greenhouse gas reduction by 2030, urgent need to achieve Vision Zero safety goals, air quality improvements, and mobility options to provide equitable and affordable travel choices.
- The major revision of the TMP’s Pedestrian Plan.
- Revised the Neighborhood Accessibility (a.k.a. 15-minute neighborhood) GIS tool based on community identification of important destinations for meeting daily needs in their neighborhood.
- Development of a complete low-stress network for bicyclists and pedestrians in the 2019 Boulder Low-Stress Walk and Bike Network Plan, aimed at providing safe and comfortable travel for all ages and abilities.
- Complete review and further refinement of Boulder’s Renewed Vision for Transit, including updated service and capital requirements; and funding and implementation strategies presented in the Transit Service Delivery Study.
- TMP Strategic Investment Program focused on enhancing essential services, multimodal safety improvements, strategies to achieve climate goals and improve air quality, plus implementation of the Renewed Vision for Transit and the electrification of the HOP transit fleet.
- Continuing to strengthen and build regional partnerships to improve the US-36 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and to advance the regional corridor improvements included in the corridor studies on SH 119 to Longmont and SH 7 to Brighton.
- Integration of the Access Management and Parking Strategy (AMPS) strategies into the TMP.
- Development of a capital project prioritization GIS tool with the explicit inclusion of equity factors in the TMP investment programs and project list analysis.
- Completely revised structure to the plan document and consistent presentation of the Key Initiatives highlighting the work needed to achieve the TMP vision and goals.

As with all city master plans, the Transportation Master Plan takes its overall policy direction from the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) and this update incorporates the 2015 BVCP, the city’s Sustainability Framework and the Climate Commitment.

TAB Clarifying Questions

- Appreciation regarding great steps since Folsom Street pilot project.
- Questions regarding street classification map and its usage.

Public Participation

- Sue Prant, Executive Director Community Cycles – congratulations to staff and TAB; this update is a great improvement. Starts with safety, request endorsement of 20 m.p.h. speed limit on residential streets, sets precedent, educational, equitable, will make Boulder a leader to which Denver and state will be looking. Requests the process start immediately and be a “call out” item to City Council.
  o Bill – clarify which streets would be 20 m.p.h. – shown as black on map, lowest level residential streets.
- Scott Hatfield – good work, good expansion, does not include focus on trip generators. There needs to be more of a carbon- and performance-based approach for transportation to be included in the energy intensity, especially for businesses and their buildings. The onerous (sic) needs to be on trip generators rather than residential errands (i.e. businesses and out of town commuters.) Recommends not excluding carbon intensity going forward.
• Lisa White – served on PAC, expressed appreciation. Supports more car-free areas. Equity in the TMP is really important. Requests further development of the equity section - gaps in safety and convenience, for example, cost of car ownership. Consider residents most impacted by air pollution, i.e. those in affordable housing, how cars impact our community and cost of inaction.

**Board Action Requested**

Staff recommends TAB consider the following motion:

TAB recommends council accept the 2019 TMP, 2019 TMP Action Plan, 2019 Boulder Pedestrian Plan, and associated materials as they reflect the 18-month update process, the work of two citizen advisory committees and the initiatives and actions needed to meet our community’s sustainability and transportation goals and to respond to the climate crisis.

**TAB Discussion**

• Appreciation of Herculean effort, content, visual presentation.
• Comment about advanced mobility section of TMP action and continued city parking code reform, encouragement to address quickly; offer to be involved.
• Question about using 1994 travel time levels as best metric, need to be included in TMP, conflict with level of service and where we’re trying to move.
• Comment that safety for vulnerable users, equity and environment are key.
• Opinion expressed that language needs to be a bolder about embracing 20 m.p.h. on residential streets.
• Comment that this report demonstrates increasing intersectionality of transportation, smart land use and climate action, reminder that City Council election is coming up in November, consider candidates interested in transportation planning for the future.

**Motion**

Approve staff recommendation with amendment to language in TMP Action Plan item 1D, to read:

TAB recommends council accept the 2019 TMP, 2019 TMP Action Plan, 2019 Pedestrian Plan, and associated materials, with amendment to actively promote slower speeds on residential streets and evaluate lowering residential speed limits to 20 miles per hour, as they reflect the 18-month update process, the work of two citizen advisory groups and the initiatives and actions needed to meet our community’s sustainability and transportation goals and to respond to the climate crisis.

**Motion:** Rigler  Second: Weinheimer

5:0:0 Motion Passes

**Agenda Item 6:** Public hearing and TAB consideration of a recommendation to City Council regarding Design and Construction Standards (DCS) transportation (phase 1)  

Gerrit Slatter made the presentation to the board.

**Executive Summary**

The City of Boulder is currently engaged in a process to update the Design and Construction Standards (DCS). The DCS is used to prescribe minimum standards to be used in the design and construction of public infrastructure located in public right-of-way and easements within the city of Boulder, as well as private transportation and utility improvements that connect or impact public infrastructure.

This purpose of this memorandum is to provide additional background information and a summary of the proposed transportation related updates to the DCS per TAB’s request at the March 11, 2019 meeting. Staff have identified that additional work on the transportation sections is necessary to address TAB feedback, therefore these updates are being separated from the utility’s updates.

TAB’s purview includes DCS chapters 2, 8, and transportation-related technical drawings in chapter 11. These standards are used to implement capital projects conducted by the city. TAB’s role is to understand the proposed changes in context of their implementation of the Transportation Master Plan and capital projects.
The transportation related changes being proposed in this DCS update are in response to several years of community concerns regarding current transportation related design and construction standards. The goal of this update is to develop transportation standards which align with industry best practices, increase travel safety, and implement approved Transportation Master Plan policies.

Staff have identified other transportation related changes that are outside the scope of the current update and these will be considered in a future DCS update. A description of the proposed changes is included in the chart below.

**Request of TAB**
Staff recommends TAB consider the following motion:
TAB recommends approval of the proposed revisions to the DCS to the Planning Board.

**TAB Clarifying Questions**
- Questions concerning sidewalk widths, extent to which NACTO guidelines intersect, criteria for raised crossing(s).

**Public Participation**
- Alexey Davies – Phase II transportation in 2020 – thank you for phase 1, impacts low stress network.
- Lynn Segal – suggests TAB recommend dropping the Opportunity Zone moratorium and density of Alpine-Balsam proposed housing that will magnify costs.
- Sue Prant – transportation DCS is important to green streets but especially to development.

**TAB Feedback**
- no further feedback.

**Motion**
TAB recommends approval of the proposed revisions to the DCS to the Planning Board.

**Motion:** Drozdek  Second: Rigler

5:0:0 Motion Passes

**Agenda Item 7:** Staff briefing and TAB feedback regarding speed limits on residential streets [8:06 p.m.]
Kathleen Bracke made the presentation to the board.

**TAB Feedback**
- Questions about data to support lower speed limits, interest in school zones, inclusion of public comments received to date, how many non-residential streets are 25 m.p.h..
- Suggestion for TAB to host related public events, treat 13th Green Street as pilot for 20 m.p.h. to collect data.
- TAB supported the proposed approach recommended by staff, including public process in alignment with the city’s community engagement framework.

**Agenda Item 8:** Staff briefing and TAB feedback regarding Shared Micromobility Program Update [8:29 p.m.]
David Kemp made the presentation to the board.

**TAB Feedback**
- Questions about criteria of pilot program,
- Appreciation for communication plan, suggestion to focus on first/last mile solution, proposed pilot demographic.
- Request to schedule TAB working session regarding this topic.

**Agenda Item 9:** Matters [8:55 p.m.]
- **Matters**
  - A. Matters from Staff/Non-Agenda – no updates
  - B. Matters from the Board [8:55 p.m.]
    - Pedestrian Action Committee (PAC)(Weinheimer, Duhaime) - final celebration 8/29/2019 at Eben G. Fine Park. Interest in continuing the group, working on group letter to City Council.
    - Open Board Comment
• Comment that neighborhood Ecopass coordination is a huge burden, should not be a volunteer effort.
• Inquiry whether TAB should respond regarding Quentin Young Daily Camera editorial – park tenants feel animosity of city towards them, especially regarding parking.
• Suggestion that TAB could offer listening sessions around the city in September and October, similar to what the Housing Advisory Board (HAB) is doing. Neighborhood Ecopass coordination could be a potential topic.
• Inquiry regarding next steps with CU about 35th Street/Baseline/Williams Village traffic, comments that 15th Street and Hawthorne lacks sight line and is unsafe, Park East Park at Crescent and Laurel has inconsistent signage, encouragement to develop Green Street guidance.
• Request for update on Rayleigh and Broadway intersection.

**Agenda Item 11: Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the board at this time, by motion regularly adopted, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

**Motion: moved to adjourn:** Duhaime  **Second:** McIntyre

**Motion passes 5:0:0**

**Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting:**
The next meeting will be a regular meeting on Monday, October 14, 2019 in the Council Chambers, 2nd floor of the Municipal Building, at 6:00 p.m.; unless otherwise decided by staff and the Board.

**APPROVED BY:**

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Board Chair

**ATTESTED:**

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Board Secretary

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Date

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Date

An audio recording of the full meeting for which these minutes are a summary is available on the Transportation Advisory Board web page.