

**Date:** Tuesday March 22, 2016 from 8:30am to 10:00pm

**Location:** Sonny West Room, Metro Office Building, 800 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South, Nashville, TN

## **Initial Organization Meeting Notes**

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### **Participants**

- Angie Henderson, Metro Council
- Mary Beth Ikard, Metro Mayor's Office
- Jason Radinger, WalknBike Project Manager; Metro Public Works
- Jerry Hall, Metro General Services
- Bridget Galvin, Metro General Services
- Micheal Gilliland, Metro Police
- Adams Carrol, Metro Planning
- Mark Macy, Metro Public Works
- Jenna Smith, Metro Public Works
- Kennetha Price, Metro Public Works
- Michael Gilliland, Metro Police
- Mayra Cervantes, Conexion Americas
- Kristen Heggie, Skanska
- John Gore, Barge Cauthen & Associates
- Mary Pat Teague, Metro BPAC, Vanderbilt University
- Nora Kern, Walk Bike Nashville
- David Proffitt, Metro Public Schools
- Mary Vavra, Transit Now Nashville Board member, Lose & Associates
- John Harkey, Metro BPAC, Healthy Nashville Leadership Council Member
- Felix Castrodad, MTA
- Leslie Meehan, TN Department of Health
- Kenton Dickerson, TN Disability Coalition
- Debra Gibbs, Council on Aging, Belmont University
- Evan Pendencygraft, Student, Belmont University
- Keith Rawls, Nashville B-cycle
- Matt Hayes, Alta Planning + Design
- Brad Davis, Planning + Design
- Collin Chesston, Alta Planning + Design
- Jennifer Baldwin, Alta Planning + Design
- Phillip Nelson, Civic Engineering
- Clifton Ogden, Civic Engineering
- Kim Hawkins, Hawkins Partners
- Nathan Oliver, Hawkins Partners
- Keith Miles, MP & F Public Relations
- Ben Baden, MP&F Public Relations
- Evan Wafer, MP & F Public Relations



## Opening Remarks

An organizational meeting for the 2016 Strategic Plan for Sidewalks and Bikeways Update, known as WalknBike, took place on March 22. Mark Macy, Public Works Director, introduced the steering committee to the project and said that the update is Nashville's guide for sidewalks and bikeways, and it needs to reflect our community's wishes. Mary Beth Ikard, transportation and sustainability manager at Mayor Megan Barry's office, stressed the importance of the project and called it one of the mayor's top priorities.

## Project Overview

WalknBike will be the second update to Metro's 2003 plan. The last update was 2008.

WalknBike will assess and update the current Pedestrian Generator Index, Sidewalk Matrix and the Bikeways plan. The project will be done in tandem with other Metro and community agencies ongoing work, including but not limited to MTA's nMotion and the Parks strategic plan update.

Internal planning for the project began in February, and the first public meeting will take place on April 15<sup>th</sup> followed by a number of public meetings to be held throughout the county this summer. The team will also be collecting input at various community events later this year, such as Tour de Nash and Open Streets Nashville. A final plan will be presented for public comment in November and adopted in late 2016 or early 2017.

The purpose of the plan is to outline goals, priorities and policies regarding location of the countywide sidewalk and bikeways network and provide a method for prioritizing improvements to ensure a healthy, active, safe, and vibrant community.

The lead consultants for the project, Alta Planning + Design, walked the committee through national trends and how Nashville compares to others cities and led a group discussion about expectations for the plan. Committee members said the plan needs to have a robust public engagement component, set high standards and clear goals, create an equitable system for evaluating projects, remove barriers to walking and biking and align with other planning processes, such as nMotion and Nashville Next. Members said residents and visitors need to feel like they're able to safely access the city via walking and biking and connections to transit.

## Next Steps

A project website, [www.nashvillewalknbike.com](http://www.nashvillewalknbike.com), will be launched soon to serve as a public clearinghouse for all project materials and meeting announcements. The website will also host a community survey and an interactive map for residents to provide input on key destinations, barriers to walking and biking, and general comments. The next meeting of the committee will be Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 10:00am at the Civic Design Center, 138 2nd Ave N #106. The introductory open house public meeting will be held on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00pm to 2:00pm at the Nashville Public Library, 615 Church St.