

CITY of MEBANE



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

2021 Annual Report & 2022 Work Plan





2021 IN REVIEW

Better Block Projects

The Mebane Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) dedicated significant time during 2021 to designing, implementing, and evaluating two Better Block projects:

1. Downtown Parklet – a temporary setup of picnic tables and bike rack in a parking stall on Clay Street
2. Ashbury Traffic Calming – temporary crosswalks and stop signs in the Ashbury neighborhood

The projects emerged from Mebane's participation in the Better Block Trailer, which is a shared community resource available to communities in Alamance County. The trailer contains materials like chalk, paint, traffic cones, and barricades to “test-drive” ideas on streets and in public spaces before pursuing permanent projects. The two Mebane projects were active during the months of August, September, and October.



The Better Block projects provided an opportunity to engage with the Mebane community. Groups such as Destination Downtown, MUSE of Mebane, and the Ashbury Homeowners' Association supported realization of the projects. Each survey for the two temporary projects received more than 200 responses. The BPAC and City of Mebane staff continue to evaluate results of the temporary projects and consider permanent improvements.



October Bike Rodeo

In partnership with the Mebane Police Department and Mebane on the Move, the BPAC co-hosted a children's bike rodeo outside the American Legion Building in Downtown Mebane. The rodeo was held during Autumn Fest and included distribution of free bike helmets. Various stations were set up at the bike rodeo, including bike registration with Mebane Police, bike maintenance, and an obstacle course. Additionally, the BPAC distributed bike campaign signs.



Crosswalk Improvements

In 2021, long-awaited crosswalks were realized on and around S Fifth Street, S Third Street, and E Brown Street. These crossings of streets maintained by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) required encroachment agreements. At the BPAC's recommendations, crosswalk and curb ramp improvements were also installed at the intersections of N Charles & W Ruffin, W Crawford & N Third, and N Fifth & Kit.

Capital Projects

During 2021, progress was made on previous capital project recommendations from the BPAC. Sidewalk on W Jackson Street was completed. Outreach and preliminary assessment were completed for the W Crawford Sidewalk Project and the Third-Fifth Greenway Connector. Finally, City of Mebane staff continued to work on easement acquisition for the MACC-Holt Street Greenway.

2021 BPAC Members

Rebecca Brouwer, Chair	City
Sarah Elder	City
Matt Engwall, Vice-Chair	City
Katy Jones	At-large
Chelsey Morrison	Orange County
Sylvia Sichi	City
Jason Smith	Alamance County ETJ



2022 WORK PLAN

Projects & Programs

The BPAC is recommending the City Council engage in four capital projects in the coming fiscal year:

- Design and construction of a sidewalk along the W Carr frontage of E.M. Yoder Elementary
- Final design and initial construction of sidewalk on the block of N Second and W Crawford
- Initial design and easement acquisition of sidewalk on W Crawford between N First and N Charles
- Initial design and easement acquisition of the Third-Fifth Greenway Connector

The BPAC will continue to evaluate where safe crossings are needed and coordinate with staff to pursue them. Additionally, the BPAC plans to participate in the annual bicycle rodeo and potentially lead other bicycle campaigns.

During 2022, the BPAC will explore opportunities to further partner with City departments and other City commissions, including programs such as [Watch For Me NC](#).





Updates to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan

The BPAC will play a significant and important role in funded updates to the [Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan](#), which was first adopted by the City of Mebane in 2015. The process to update the plan is expected to begin in May 2022, with final documents anticipated in September 2023.

Updates to the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan* will coincide with drafting of a new *Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan*. Though separate documents, joint public meetings and data collection will better allow the two related plans to communicate with one another. Updates to the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan* will address the following immediate needs:

- Expand the plan's study area to align with the focus areas and geography of *Mebane By Design*, the City's Comprehensive Land Development Plan, and consider future growth areas.
- Incorporate recommendations from the *2040 Comprehensive Transportation Plan* (2018) and *Downtown Vision Plan* (2019).
- Evaluate current recommendations and address those that are not feasible.
- Review and update the prioritization criteria and schedule.
- Provide updated project cutsheets and maps.
- Further develop design standards and policy recommendations to support the integration of multi-modal transportation with land use planning.



City of Mebane
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission
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