



***NASHVILLE DEPARTMENT of TRANSPORTATION
& MULTIMODAL INFRASTRUCTURE***

VISION ZERO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

December 9th, 2025

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

**Sonny West Conference Room, Howard Office Bldg
700 2nd Ave S, Nashville, TN 37210**

Committee Overview

This 15-member group serves to increase collaboration and ensures effective implementation of Nashville's Vision Zero plan. The committee meets in-person monthly and acts as a guide to assist NDOT and others in eliminating fatal and serious injury crashes in Nashville.

Notice to Public

Agendas are posted online before each meeting at

<https://www.nashville.gov/departments/transportation/plans-and-programs/vision-zero/advisory-committee>

Speaking to the Committee

Anyone can speak before the committee during a public hearing. An NDOT staff member presents each item, followed by public comment period, then committee discussion. Community members are asked to speak for two minutes each, at the discretion of the chair, and direct their comments to the committee.



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1) Call to Order

2) Roll Call

- **Present:** Kim Unertl, Charles Weingartner, Robin Lovett-Owen, Peter Robison, Landon Clark, Dylan Ringel, Ryan Renfro, Austin Fernandez, Kim Ayers, Hannah Sasscer, Olivia Ranseen, Lindsey Ganson, Eric Hoke, Jeremiah Wooten
- **Absent:** Chris Bowe, Sam Warlick
- **Staff Present:** Hal Balthrop, Valeria Martinez, Lexi Brown, Piro Meleby

3) Approval of November Meeting Minutes

- Revision: Landon not listed on roll but was absent.
- Robin Lovett-Owen was listed as present but was not

4) Motion: Approve November minutes with corrections (moved by Charles Weingartner, seconded by Olivia Ranseen). Approved.

5) Public Comments

- The public is invited to speak regarding any issue. Members of the public testifying are asked to limit testimony to three minutes.
 - No public comments.
- Time Allocated: Per Chair

6) Fatal Crash Statistics Update

- Piro Meleby, EIT (NDOT Staff)
- High level update on fatal injury crashes YTD and GIS tracking
- Action: Informational
- Allocated Time: 15 minutes

7) Communications

- **Reports from Vision Zero Advisory Committee Members and Subcommittees**
 - Allocated Time: Per Chair



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(i) New Member Subcommittee

- The group discussed the process for getting new members and the protocol for replacing members leaving. There are four spots to fill in January 2026 to replace Lindsay Ganson, Jeremiah Wooten, Hannah Scasser and Chris Bowe.
- Motion: Add Hayden and Scott as members beginning January 2026 (moved by Peter Robison, seconded by Olivia Ranseen). Approved.
- Olivia Ranseen suggested consolidating all committees because of attendance and creating an hour long working group to replace subcommittees. The group decided on meeting in the WeGo Conference room if possible and keep the schedule of meeting on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 5:30-6:30. Discussed the possibility of using Zoom or an OWL for a virtual option. Kim Ayers motioned to approve these changes and Olivia Ranseen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Lindsay Ganson is stepping down from her position in the committee. She is starting a position with WeGo and does not want there to be a conflict of interest.
- Val suggested editing bylaws to include recusing if there is a conflict of interest.

(ii) Outreach Subcommittee

(i) Planning and Engineering Subcommittee

(ii) Fatal Crash Investigation Subcommittee

- Committee discussed motorcycle wrecks have increased from last year. Discussed having Captain William's replacement to be a guest speaker to talk trends in fatalities.
- Discussed classifications and differences of E-bikes, scooters, and gas powered and potential reclassification. Discussed a scooter death on Old Hickory Blvd which was classified as a pedestrian death.
- Valeria Martinez shared an internal map for crash information and gave overview of available information as well as plans for additional information to be added in the future.
- Valeria Martinez discussed difficulties working with developers to further implement safety mitigation.
- Ms. Ranseen asked if the internal map will be used to inform safety recommendations? Ms. Martinez stated that discussions are being had to determine who will benefit from this tool and how it will be used going forward.

(iii) Strategic Planning Subcommittee

8) WeGo Safe Routes to Transit Programming- 30 minutes

- Felix Castrodad (WeGo- Planning Director)
 - WeGo is continuing with regular work independent of CHYM. Gave presentation on Better Bus, a 5 year part of the City Transportation plan for improving bus service. This plan Includes earlier and later service, more frequent buses, new connections, upgraded stops and transit center and access improvements. Mr. Castrodad gave an overview of Transit



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Design Guidelines including ADA guidelines, signage, and stop placement. Shared examples of bus stop improvements that have been completed. Mr. Castrodad gave overview of the WeGo Transit Stop Improvements dashboard. Explained how WeGo is involved in Development review coordination process and how useful involvement has been as well as updated transit centers to increase safety of riders and pedestrians. CHYM was discussed and improvements for riders. Sidewalks, signals and NDOT coordination are ongoing.

- Chair Robison asked if WeGo identify areas deficient in crosswalks? Mr. Castrodad said that they do communicate with drivers and participate in decision process for stop placement and that new improvements must meet new guidelines.
- Robin Lovett-Owen noted that a pedestrian was killed near a bus stop near Murfreesboro pike and asked about the ability to persuade TDOT to make further changes. Mr. Castrodad noted that they do coordinate with NDOT biweekly, and use TDOT guidelines, discussed projects that have implemented improvements like the Nolensville Pk. corridor.
 - Follow up question was asked about who is being alerted to a death near a bus stop. Mr. Castrodad said that their safety department handles this and CEO gets a call.
- Chair Robison asked about bus stop Mr. Castrodad noted the general perception versus actual challenges are things like crosswalk not safety. Chair Robison added that bus stops on both sides of the roads is beneficial and proposed using more raised crosswalks. Mr. Castrodad noted that WeGo could suggest this to NDOT. Ms. Unertl suggested adding this to the guidelines.
- Eric Hoke related to bus stop and suggested updates to signal timing orientated more toward pedestrians.
- Kim Ayers noted that ramps not always accessible and are sometimes dangerous to wheelchair users.
- Olivia Ranseen added that plans for upgrades can be seen in the development tracker.
- Chair Robison asked what lessons are learned from North Nashville center. Mr. Castrodad said that there was a debriefing and he has talked to other agencies for better approaches. He also noted that sometimes adjustments have to be made after the fact when you can see it in use and that each center is unique.
- Charles Weingartner brought up micro-modality service to bus stops what can be learned and how they are being implemented. Mr. Castrodad said he would



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be happy to come back and present at a later date.

- Charles Weingartner noted that he does like the functionality of the dashboard. Mr. Weingartner inquired if WeGo has to follow regulations on capital spending and if work goes to a consultant or are if updates are done in house? Mr. Castrodad said that WeGo is taking on more improvements in house but does have contractors that work internally. Coordination with NDOT is also happening.
- Peter Robison brought up that fatalities happen near bus stops and are an ongoing issue and asked what can be done to speed up the process of quick builds to increase safety for pedestrians? Mr. Castrodad said that sometimes the bus stop is moved or they try to incentivize people from walking mid-block. The priority is high injury locations. Sometimes easement for ROW are requested. CHYM identifies high injury locations for safety projects many of which are close to bus routes.
- Kim Unertl asked how many bus stops are where there are not sidewalks? Mr. Castrodad made a note to follow back up with this information.
- Ms. Unertl also asked how to report safety issues at stops. Mr. Castrodad referred her to the customer care number that routes to investigators or HUB Nashville.
- Olivia Ranseen mentioned that metal benches are inhospitable and asked about less heat conductive options. Mr. Castrodad was not aware if metal is required but will follow up.
- Dylan Ringel brought up that the Music City Circuit was a free transit option downtown. Discussed difficulties of and asked about downtown circulator routes. Mr. Castrodad noted that the Music City Circuit was in the previous budget and used early generation electric buses which caused issues. Looking at additional services that can be used downtown. Service was sometimes unreliable.

Other Items

- Chair Robison proposed that in the next meeting to plan for which items need to be in the report that will be sent to Metro for 3rd year VZ. Chair Robison noted the importance for next 5 year planning cycle. **Add to agenda for next month**
- Discussed where on the shared drive fatal crash information is being transitioned to and where to find old and new information. The group discussed naming files consistently to increase ease of finding information.
- Lindsey Ganson brought up need to have short, medium, and long term goals for each fatal crash recommendations. As well as a need for tracking what has happened as regarding implementation and processes.
- Discussed the five year plan and possibly looking at other successful comparable cities that have reduced deaths.
- Robin Lovett-Owen brought forth a motion to nominate Charles Weingartner as the next Chair for the committee and Olivia Ranseen volunteered to continue as the Vice Chair. Kim Ayers seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.