

## BUCKHEAD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BCID)

### Minutes

September 23, 2020

#### **Preamble:**

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Buckhead Community Improvement District was held on September 23, 2020, pursuant to legal notice via ZOOM Teleconference. Chairman Thad Ellis called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

#### **Attendance:**

The Board Secretary recorded attendance and reported that a quorum was present. Members in attendance in addition to Mr. Ellis were: Robin Suggs, Herbert Ames, Jim Bacchetta, Matt Rendle, Robin Loudermilk, Scott Snipes and Scott Werbel. Also, in attendance were Jim Durrett, Executive Director; Rebecca Stokes, Board Secretary, Financial/Office Manager, Buckhead CID & Livable Buckhead; Tony Peters, Director of Capital Projects and Programs; Matt Gore, Projects and Programs Manager; Denise Starling, Executive Director of Livable Buckhead; Lynn Rainey, Board Attorney. Guests present included John Ruch, Buckhead Reporter; Drew Ferguson, Sen. Kelly Loeffler; Beverly Rhodes, Crown Castle; Don Harris; Jim Elgar, Councilman J.P. Matzigkeit.

#### **Teleconference Authorization:**

Lynn Rainey read the following statement: In light of the World Health Organization declaration of a pandemic due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the declaration of a National Emergency and Georgia Emergency constituting circumstances necessitated by emergency conditions involving public safety, to conduct today's board meeting by means of video teleconference. **MOTION: Robin Loudermilk put forth a motion approve the Teleconference Authorization, seconded by Matt Rendle. No objections were recorded. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **1. Board Meeting Minutes from July 22, 2020:**

**MOTION: A draft of the July 22, 2020 board meetings were reviewed by the Board. Robin Suggs put forth a motion to approve the July 22, 2020 minutes, seconded by Matt Rendle. No objections were recorded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**2. Treasurer's Report:** Herbert Ames gave the board a brief review of the standard monthly reports included in the board packet as of July 31, 2020.

#### **3. Projects and Programs Report:**

- a. Peachtree Phase 3 Update:** Mr. Peters provided a project summary in presentation and a drone view of the project area. BCID is working with GDOT to complete the Construction Framework Agreement. Once complete, we will

## BUCKHEAD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BCID)

### Minutes

September 23, 2020

submit to City of Atlanta for the Mayor's signature. Once the agreement is in place, Georgia Power, AT&T and Zoya will start the process of burying utilities. The utility work is projected to take 3 months and then construction will begin. Construction is projected to take 12 months to complete.

- b. **Piedmont Widening Update:** Mr. Peters provided a project summary in the presentation and a drone view of the project area. The next phase of this project is to acquire all ROW and have them certified by end of March 2021. There are 9 ROW parcels in this project and we must follow the federal process due to the federal funding allocated for this project. All the appraisals have been completed and we are waiting on the Cost to Cure process. Mr. Ellis asked for a more detailed description of protected turn lane detailed in this design. Mr. Peters explained that it means there will be a dedicated center lane for turning. Jim Durrett stated that no medians will be installed. Mr. Ames asked if the dedicated right turn lane from Lenox to Piedmont will be reopened after construction is completed by Mill Creek. Mr. Peters stated he will find out and let him know. The new design does include 3 dedicated left turn lanes from Lenox Road to Piedmont Road. The new streetscape design will also tie into PATH400 on Lenox Road. Mr. Peters commented the Mr. Gore did a great job developing the ARC TIP grant requests.  
**Ref New Business 4 a)**

- c. **Wieuca-Phipps Roundabout Update:** Mr. Peters provided a project summary in the presentation and a drone view of the project area. BCID has submitted a 60% design plan to City of Atlanta for review. We participated in a preliminary field plan review with approximately 20 people from the new City of Atlanta Department of Transportation. This new department is headed by Commissioner Josh Rowan and combines all required City of Atlanta departments which streamlines the process of getting project comments and guidelines. This project includes an 8 foot multi-use trail & bike lanes from Wieuca Road to Old Ivy Road. And there will also be a new traffic light installed at Old Ivy and Wieuca Road. The new bike lanes will provide connection from Old Ivy Road to existing bike lanes that run to East Paces Ferry Road. BCID is also working with City of Atlanta and surrounding property owners to design a small greenspace area at the corner of Wieuca Road. We anticipate having final designs at the next board meeting.
- d. **Lenox Road Complete Street-Phase 1:** Mr. Peters provided a project summary in the presentation and a drone view of the project area. Mr. Peters reported that the design is focused on the south side of Lenox Road but we will also be addressing sidewalk repairs and ADA access on the north side. Within this project, BCID will also address repaving this section of Lenox Road based on an agreement

BUCKHEAD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BCID)

Minutes

September 23, 2020

with City of Atlanta.

- e. **West Village Streetscapes Update:** Mr. Gore provided a project summary in the presentation. Mr. Gore reported that Astra, the contractor, has 3 crews working and they have made great progress. Sidewalks and driveway aprons have been replaced in many locations and they are now working on Paces Ferry Place. Once complete, the next step will be road paving which is projected to start in November and be completed before the holidays. The Roswell Road section is more of a challenge as we are working with both city and state to get this section done. The stormwater work should begin in October and we hope will be complete before the holidays. Mr. Peters reported that a new utility vault was installed in the stormwater repair location which has caused some additional design needs. **Ref New Business 4 b)**
- f. **ADA Update:** Mr. Gore provided a project summary in the presentation. Mr. Gore reported that this project is substantially complete. Original scope was revised from 5 roads to 6 roads which includes Maple Drive, Pharr Road, Lenox Road, Peachtree Road/Bolling Way and finally East Paces Ferry/Bolling Way. This project is projected to come in under budget. Mr. Peters stated that this is a great model of how to work with City of Atlanta to get these repairs done.
- g. **GA400 Interchange Scoping Study Update:** Mr. Peters reported that this project is ramping up again. We are working on design ideas for the Lenox/GA400 interchange for pedestrian mobility.
- h. **Atlanta Police Foundation:** Mr. Peters provided a program summary in the presentation. The board previously approved funding for adding cameras and a supplemental police patrol for Buckhead. One of the cameras was recently installed in the West Village and the supplemental patrol program is active. The supplemental patrol service includes an off-duty officer is working from 6PM to 2AM Tuesday through Sunday. These officers use a phone app to check in with the Atlanta Police Foundation (APF) and provide incident data. Mr. Peters provided a sample report of what is provided to the BCID by APF. Mr. Ellis asked if the officers have provided feedback whether additional supplemental patrols would be beneficial. Mr. Peters stated that the presence of the City Atlanta/BCID police car has been very impactful. Mr. Ellis asked Mr. Loudermilk if he has received feedback. Mr. Loudermilk reported that responses have been positive. Mr. Ames agreed with Mr. Loudermilk and asked the board to consider increasing this program. Mr. Durrett stated that discussions have already begun and will continue about potentially adding a "Buckhead Blue Program" to augment the City of Atlanta Police. Mr. Ames also suggested BCID consider revising the hours

BUCKHEAD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BCID)

Minutes

September 23, 2020

of the program based on crime reports.

- i. **Program Updates:** Mr. Gore provided a Georgia Works program summary in the presentation. This program employs Georgia Works workers to address litter on PATH400, Charlie Loudermilk Park, Peachtree Road and Lenox Road. The workers also service dog waste stations and empty trash cans on PATH400 and Charlie Loudermilk Park. Georgia Works is an organization that works with the homeless to get them back on their feet by providing jobs and helping them to become self-sufficient. It's a year program and at the end, workers graduate to become independent members of the community. Over the last year, the BCID has worked with a great guy, Walter Dixon. He has excelled in every way and has become a popular fixture in the Buckhead community. Mr. Durrett read an email sent by a Buckhead Resident complimenting Mr. Dixon. Mr. Durrett recommends to the board that Walter Dixon be offered a permanent job. Mr. Ellis stated that BCID will continue to work with the Georgia Works program. Ms. Suggs recommended that we provide Mr. Dixon with BCID uniform. Mr. Rainey clarified that Mr. Dixon will be an employee of the Buckhead Coalition but funded through the BCID. **Ref New Business 4 c)**
- j. **Re-Paving:** Mr. Peters reported that the City of Atlanta has been doing a lot of re-paving in Buckhead including Lenox Road, Wieuca Road, Peachtree Road and they are scheduled to start West Wieuca Road soon. The City will begin installing the permanent striping on Peachtree Road in which it will include continuing the change from 2 lanes to 3 lanes going north to Maple Drive.
- k. **Express Bus:** Mr. Starling provided a program summary for presentation. Livable Buckhead, the neighborhoods and BCID have approached the city to add an express bus to Buckhead to mitigate traffic in the commercial core. With a lot of support, this program has been added to the ATL Plan. This makes this program eligible for state and federal funds. The next opportunity to solicit funds will be Summer of 2021 and we will be working to complete the plan for submission. The proposed route will utilize the highway and not neighborhood streets. Mr. Ellis asked what routes will be used once it leaves the highways. Ms. Starling responded that several routes are being considered.
- l. **PATH400:** Ms. Starling provided a project summary in the presentation. Phase III is nearing completion and we hope to open mid-October. Next week we are complete with our work and then MARTA will need to approve. Panels have been designed and will be installed on the fence. Mr. Durrett asked where the panels will be installed. Ms. Starling stated they will be on the north side closer to the bridge. The design for the section from Wieuca to Loridans should be completed

## BUCKHEAD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BCID)

### Minutes

September 23, 2020

by year end. This will provide the opportunity to pull in Federal funding next year for construction. Also, the extension to the City Limits was awarded \$3.2M in TIP funds for construction and Sandy Springs was awarded \$284k for ROW cost for their section of the trail. Mr. Durrett stated that TIP approval will be approved by ARC this afternoon. Mr. Peters asked for the timeline of when PATH400 and Beltline will be connected. Ms. Starling stated this is probably 7 years. LBI is hosting a virtual activation on PATH400 titled Big PATH, Tiny Parks from October 16<sup>th</sup> through October 18<sup>th</sup>.

- m. **Mountain Way Common Park:** Ms. Starling provided a project summary in the presentation. This park is a great connection to PATH400. The internal trail located within the park was funded by a Park Pride grant. The only outstanding item is the planting the self-watering planters and Buckhead Rotary will assist with this.
- a. **DRC:** Ms. Starling reported on four projects that were reviewed by the Development Review Committees. Details were provided in board materials.

#### 4. New Business:

- a. **Piedmont Widening:** Mr. Durrett reported that we were successful obtaining federal funds through ARC Federal Tip Program which provides us the opportunity to de-commit local funds allocated to this project. **MOTION: Jim Bacchetta put forth a motion to de-commit a total of \$2.65M of BCID funds for the Piedmont Widening project, seconded by Herbert Ames. No objections were recorded. The motion passed unanimously.**
- b. **West Village Streetscapes:** Mr. Durrett reported that some additional design needs were required for this project which resulted in two additional task orders for Kimley-Horn. There is no additional funding commitment needed but we need the board to approve these task orders. **MOTION: Robin Loudermilk put forth a motion to ratify two task orders for Kimley-Horn in the amount of \$55k, seconded by Herbert Ames. No objections were recorded. The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. **New Staff Hire:** Mr. Durrett recommends to the board that it fund an offer of employment to be made by the Buckhead Coalition to Walter Dixon. **MOTION: Jim Bacchetta put forth a motion to fund the Buckhead Coalition's offer of employment to Walter Dixon, seconded by Herbert Ames. No objections were recorded. The motion passed unanimously.**
- d. **New Office Space:** Ms. Starling reported that she met with the property management regarding our new space. Originally, construction was to begin fourth quarter of 2020 but they have proposed moving this to third quarter of

BUCKHEAD COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BCID)

Minutes

September 23, 2020

2021. With this delay, we will expand our current space to move The Buckhead Coalition offices to our suite at our current rate.

- e. **BCID 2020 Goals Update:** Mr. Durrett reported to the board we are on schedule for our 2020 goals. The only delay is regarding the Annual Maintenance budget but we plan to present at the next board meeting. Mr. Ellis requested that a copy of the goals be emailed to the board members.
5. **BCID Board Meeting:** Mr. Durrett that the next board meeting has been rescheduled to December 2, 2020 based on the Thanksgiving holiday schedule.
6. **City of Atlanta Council Members:** Mr. Ellis thanked Mr. Durrett for his great work. Recently individual meetings were held with most of the City of Atlanta Council members. Attendees included Joe Evans, Dave Stockert, Jim Durrett and Thad Ellis. Mr. Ellis stated that these meetings went very well with a great exchange of ideas and open dialogue about all topics. Mr. Ellis has asked Garth Peters to distribute council member contact info to BCID board members and encourages each member to reach out. Mr. Durrett stated that these relationships are key to working cohesively with the City.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2020 at 7:30 a.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary