

Athens in Motion Commission

MINUTES – MARCH, 25, 2025

Location: ACC Gov Planning Department, 120 W. Dougherty Street
Planning Auditorium

Attendees

In Person

AiM Commissioners

- Art Edison
- Teresa Friedlander
- Randy Halstead
- Julie Jaeger
- Allen Jones
- Ed Maioriello
- Gabriella Sandberg
- Blaine Van Note

ACCGov Staff

- Katie Goodrum
- Daniel Sizemore

Virtual

ACCGov Staff

- Todd Miller

Ex-Officio

- Scott Long, Bike Athens

Absent

AiM Commissioners

- Lauren Blais

Guests

- Mark Ebell

Welcome

Teresa opened the meeting at 4:13 pm

Roll Call – Quorum achieved

Public Comment – Mark Ebell was in person to discuss safety on the Greenway. Specifically, mentioned a few intersections that could be improved by better signage and raised crosswalks or speed tables.

Agenda

Teresa shared the agenda and entertained a motion to accept. Gabriella moved to accept the agenda; Randy seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Minutes

Teresa shared the previous meeting minutes and entertained a motion to accept. Ed moved to accept the minutes; Art seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Minutes

Housekeeping

April Meeting

- Should we cancel April meeting because we have the plan revision workshop and TSPLOST presentations
- Is a gathering under the AiMC name subject to Sunshine laws?
- For now, we will keep the April 22 meeting on the calendar. Could be cancelled, if desired.

General Updates

TSPOST 2026

Daniel Sizemore, Bike, Pedestrian and Safety Coordinator

Randy Halstead, AiMC TSPLOST 2026 Advisory Committee

- Athens in Motion presenting all four projects on April 14 at/after 5:30 (ACC Planning Auditorium)
- 38 presentations have been completed, 22 yet to come

Plan Revision & Workshop

Daniel Sizemore, Bike, Pedestrian and Safety Coordinator

- April 25-26 (Twilight weekend)
 - All day Friday, Saturday until 3pm
 - Reviewed workshop schedule and discussed the process

From the M&C Government Operations Committee – Board/Authority/Commission Consolidation

Daniel Sizemore, Bike, Pedestrian and Safety Coordinator

- Government Operations Committee, a committee of the Mayor and Commission, has been looking at all Boards, Authorities and Commissions and is proposing combining/merging
 - Presently the GOC has asked our opinion on merging the Trails aspect of Greenway Commission into Athens in Motion
 - Discussion/notes to pass to Chair of AiMC for organization/delivery:

From Ed, Oconee Rivers Greenway Commission:

- The proposal was discussed at a recent Greenway Commission meeting. They do not wish to be included/merged with any other commission/entity. Desire to continue in its current form
- There is concern about remaining “Ordinance” status
- The trails provide much exposure to the Greenway Commission and removing them would significantly (negatively) impact on them

From Daniel Sizemore, TPW:

- TPW favors the merger, or at least having AiMC take oversight over the trail portion
- AiMC oversight would allow TPW greater involvement, allowing for better coordination
- They see the merger as an opportunity for better planning of transportation aspects of the Greenway

Other comments:

Art commented that he utilizes the Greenway twice a day and it personally is the heart of his commute. He also questioned if either commission is at risk of being decommissioned?

Aaron Redmond offered that the Greenway is utilized more for recreation than being actual transportation based.

Mark Ebell has seen varying priorities on the Greenway Commission between trail development and conservation over the years.

Teresa questioned what value could be added and/or what issues could be resolved by merging.

Staff Updates

Park Planning

Todd Miller, Park Planning Coordinator

- Firefly Phase III – final completion 02/12/2026. Clearing work in segments from Hancock Rd to Ranick Rd
- Greenway Trail Expansion – Oak/Oconee St bridge Greenway underpass – GDOT bridge is under construction. Expected completion is 2028.
- MLK Jr Parkway – North Ave to East Broad St – currently in design stage. Working toward open house in August 2025

Transit

Randy Brown, ACC Transit

- No updates

Transportation and Public Works

Daniel Sizemore, Bike, Pedestrian and Safety Coordinator

Katie Goodrum, Vision Zero Coordinator

- Barber Street at 50 percent plans
- M&C Vote updates
 - Boulevard and Nacoochee Traffic Circle – working to get it on agenda for April/May
- Monthly Crash Report February 2025 – 389 total crashes reported (zero fatalities)

Committee/Org Reportback

Corridor Committees

- Atlanta Highway - Teresa Friedlander – no updates
- Lexington Road - Randy Halstead – no updates
- Prince Avenue - Lauren Blais – no updates

AiMC Committees

- Education and Communication – Chair: Julie Jaeger
 - Meeting on April 7th
- Policy and Projects – Chair: Randy Halstead
 - Bike racks are starting to be installed (Hendershots, Winterville Cultural Center, 21 to ACC Leisure Services)

Other Committees

- UGA - Blaine Van Note –
 - Bike racks at Foley Field (Randy)
- Greenway - Ed Maioriello –
- TSPLOST 2023 - Allen Jones – open to new Committee members

AiM Commissioner Round

Adjourn

Teresa entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed moved, Art seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Adjourn: 6:02 pm

Next meeting date: Tuesday, April 22 at 4:00 pm