

**FINAL - MINUTES
OF THE NEW BRAUNFELS TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Arthur Brinkkoeter, Gary Kirkham, Michael Yoder, Garrett Mechler.

The following members were absent: Michael Dietert, Ernesto Rodriguez.

District 4 seat is vacant.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Approval of the minutes of the February 15th, 2024 Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board meeting.

Michael Yoder made a motion to accept the February 15, 2024 minutes as written. Garrett Mechler seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

4. CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS

This time is for citizens to address the Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Transportation and Traffic Advisory Board action at this time.

The following individuals spoke at this time: Jim Holster mentioned that knowing the role that the board plays in the council decision, he felt this board should be televised.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A) Presentation and update on New Braunfels Transportation Projects.

Garry Ford presented updates on transportation projects that are being finishing up from the 2019 Bond projects like California Street, Grant Street, San Antonio Street, Union Street, and Common Street at old Farm Road 306 signal light. Also, roadway safety improvements projects, like County line at Dove crossing, County line at Walnut, and Klein Road phase 2 project is going well. Also, the wayfinding signage around town that has been installed. Ford also pointed out that the projects that are ready to get started like Goodwin/Conrad Lane project, San Antonio St. from Loop 337 to Krueger Street, Alligator

Creek trails East and West of I 35. Also, 2023 Bond projects and designs ready for design and are under construction soon. Some projects like Common Street from Loop 337 to Farm Road 306, Conrad/Goodwin to 1102, from I 35 to 1101, Kowald Road from I 35 to 1101, Solms from 482 to I 35 and Castell Avenue drainage phase 1 project at Coll Street. Also, he covered items like pedestrian crossing improvements phase one, at Common Street, Dry Comal section one, Dry Comal, section 2 & 3 and Gruene area improvements. Carly Farmer also is working on the drainage master plan. Other items related to transportation are the airport enhancement and NB transit. The City Council adopted the transit development plan. Kirkham then opened it to the public and Ken Dalfonso asked how the transit program would be funded and what route it will cover.

6. INDIVIDUAL ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A) Discuss and consider a recommendation to City Council to approve the Street Safety Action Plan.

Garry Ford explained the safety street action plan to the board and recommended taking it to City Council for approval. He explained that there has been 38 fatal crashes and 216 serious injuries since 2018. Garry also mentioned that public meetings were held to identify street intersections where improvements are needed. We were shown the data, policy goals, program goals, and project goals and also use of the safe street tool kit.

Garrett Meckler asked about the possible grants to help fund safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Kirkham also asked about the funding of the projects overall. Garrett asked if the 38 fatal crashes happened on city streets or on I 35 or both city and State Street or highways. Meckler also asked if the city would look into update policies to help calm the traffic problem. Yoder asked if the city would need to acquire more land for the right of way to be able to put the roundabouts, bike lanes, and sidewalks around the city. Citizens, Andrew Klum asked about the design roads to help traffic calming and also design roads to move traffic much safer. Garry Ford pointed out that the narrow lanes control speed, but wider roads move more traffic. Michael Yoder made a motion to approve. Gary Kirkham seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

By: _____
GARY KIRKHAM, CHAIR

Attest:

CARLY FARMER, BOARD LIASON