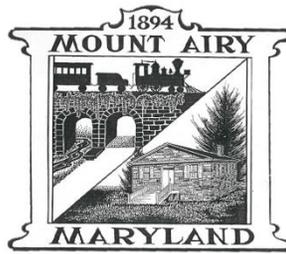


LARRY HUSHOUR
Mayor

TIM J. WASHABAUGH
Council President

JASON P. EVANS
Secretary

KARL L. MUNDER
SEAN M. KELLY
STEPHEN DOMOTOR



Streets and Roads Commission

LUCI RIEGEL, Chair
THEODOR STATHIS, Secretary
KARL L. MUNDER, Liaison

Commission Members:

ZACHARY FANNING
MICHAEL SHIPPEN

**Streets and Roads Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 27, 2025
7:00 p.m. – In Person at Town Hall**

I. Call to Order and Pledge

- a. Meeting called to Order at 6:53 PM; motioned by Michael Shippen, 2nd by Ted Stathis.

Present for the meeting were Luci Riegel, Council Liaison Karl Munder (to replace Steve Domotor), Michael Shippen, Ted Stathis, Erich Stockdale from Public Works, Town Engineer Barney Quinn, and Sgt. Brooks.

II. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from last meeting reviewed. Luci Riegel motioned to approve the minutes; Michael Shippen seconded.

III. Public Comment Pertaining to Non-Agenda Items:

- a. Steve Domotor, the previous Town Council liaison to the S&R Commission, thanked all Commission members for the support he received during his tenure on the S&R Commission. Re-elected to the Town Council,
- b. Ted asked Steve about his fruitful relationship with MDOT. Steve offered to continue the dialogue with MDOT until someone else from S&R can step into that role.
- c. Steve mentioned that to paint the white lines from So. Main St., a suggestion he had made at the last meeting to slow vehicular traffic, requires preparation of the edges of Main St. for tasks such as weed clearing and trash removal.
- d. Steve mentioned the answer he received from MDOT regarding the crosswalks on Main St.

(Note: Below is the portion of Steve's email to Luci, dated May 7, 2025, which provides details)

{Their Office of Traffic and Safety has completed their review of our submittal and has approved the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) at the "two existing crosswalks, where static signs are found". Notice the "two existing crosswalks" language. When I met with them on-site, they mentioned they would look at our full downtown zone area, to include the crosswalk up by Cryin' Johnnies, which is also not signalized. I told them it would be great to have that done also but our priority was the crosswalk by the caboose. From their update it sounds like they are doing BOTH crosswalks.

They indicated the improvements are currently in the design and review process at another MDOT SHA office. The timeline for installation will be dependent on the availability of construction funding at the end of the design process. Also, from this wording (and they alluded to this at our on-site visit), MDOT may be paying for these installations. I wanted to get money in our budget just in case which I did. And gave the mayor full disclosure that the one crosswalk we budgeted for may indeed be covered by MDOT, but it was not 100% confirmed. So, this way we have money in our budget but if MDOT covers then we have that for something else, or it goes back for other needs.}

IV. Staff Updates

- a. Sgt. Brooks, of the Mount Airy Police Department (MAPD) reviewed some items from his report:
 1. Road closures beginning at 6 PM on July 1 will occur for the American Spirit parade. Two (2) sheriffs and two (2) State troopers will be assisting the Mt. Airy Police Dept (MAPD) before, during, and after the event, to manage people and vehicular traffic safely.
 2. Road closures beginning on July 3 for the fireworks display.
- b. Erich Stockdale, from Mount Airy Public Works, reviewed these items from his report:
- c. Potholes were filled on Main St.

V. Councilman Munder presented the Council Liaison report.

- a. The most recent Town Council meeting was on May 5th.
- b. There was a 2nd hearing held regarding the Town budget.
- c. A meeting about rezoning was held on May 14th.
- d. There were discussions about the development along South Main St. extended.
- e. The Town has signed an agreement for the installation of Fiber-Optic lines in the Town. The Contractor will bear the cost of all required civil works. Furthermore, no work will be conducted between December and March, and no digging will take place on Prospect Road.

(Note: Prospect Rd. has undergone a significant re-paving recently, due to repairs on a water line.)

VI. Main Street Safety Report.

- a. S&R member Michael Shippen has agreed to take responsibility for this report, now that Steve is no longer on the S&R Commission.

VII. Website Updates.

- a. Nothing new to report.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Pedestrian Crossing Sign at N. Main Street – OPEN
 1. In progress, as Steve reported earlier.

- b. Traffic Circle - OPEN
 1. Barney Quinn presented the status of the roundabout at So. Main St. and Ridgeville Blvd.
 - a. Work is to begin in June 2025; it is a Firm Fixed Price (FFP) contract.
 - b. \$1.5M from the Federal Gov't \$1.9T economic stimulus package, known as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), has been given to the Town; about \$400k has been expended on planning the Circle.

- c. Southside Development (on So. Main St. extended) - OPEN
 1. A "Watch for Left-Turning Traffic" sign is being pursued. Sgt. Brooks supports this idea. Michael will look at this also.
 2. Michael will review the design drawings.
 3. Barney Quinn will consult with the MDOT traffic engineer.

- d. Guard Rail at Ridgeville - OPEN
 1. Chair Luci reported that the guard rail is on Town property; therefore, the Town will bear the cost of repairs.
(Note: The damage was caused by a recent vehicular accident; see previous S&R minutes.)

- e. Teen Driving Event - CLOSED
 1. Despite slightly inclement weather, 200 people attended, per chair Luci. The teens asked very good questions.
 2. Adele Conolly from MAST has suggested the Town sponsor a similar event for older drivers.

- f. Traffic Model - CLOSED
 1. Barney reviewed the efforts regarding the development of a traffic model for the Town in 2016 and 2017.
 - a. Nine (9) intersections and Route 27 were included in the model.
 - b. There is no need to keep the model current, as the cost to produce it was around \$100k.
 - c. Barney believes the information that is included in the Corridor Study is sufficient for the next seven (7) to ten (10) years.

- d. The model indicated that three (3) intersections were failing; two (2) have been addressed:
 - i. Chick-fil-A (addressed)
 - ii. Prospect and Main (addressed)
 - iii. Twin Arch and Rt. 27.

- g. Site Plans – CLOSED
 - 1. Michael shared his observations on his review of the site plans.
 - a. No major exit to Candice Dr.
 - b. Exit/Entrance to N. Main St.
 - c. An update to stormwater management will be required.

- h. N. Main St. & Rt. 27 - OPEN
 - 1. Creation of a dedicated left-hand turn lane for traffic on Northbound Rt. 27 to Candice Dr. has been rejected by MDOT.
 - 2. Sgt. Brooks stated that once the Greentree development begins, MDOT is planning to re-design the Rt. 27/Candice Dr. intersection.

- i. Speed Study So. Main St. - CLOSED
 - 1. Chair Luci presented the results of the speed study.
 - 2. Ted asked if the installation of speed cameras was ever considered.
 - a. Sgt. Brooks mentioned these are typically installed by outside companies, which take the majority of the ticket revenue. Westminster, as an example, had their cameras removed years ago.

 - 3. Ted mentioned that we are merely monitoring the problem and trying to enforce the speed limit, whereas we should be spending more time being proactive when new developments are planned.

- j. White Line Stripping on So. Main St. - OPEN
 - 1. (See Steve's comment earlier in these minutes.)

- k. Traffic Study on N. Main St. - OPEN
 - 1. Erich will install the speed monitoring equipment.

IX. New Business

- a. Parking on Veterans Way - OPEN
 1. Vehicles are parking on the striped crosswalk on Veterans Way; St. Brooks has witnessed this.
 2. Chair Luci will ask the VFW to advise their members to refrain from parking on the crosswalk.

- b. Merridale Ave. (New Complaint from the HOA President of Wildwood) - CLOSED
 1. A car was observed speeding, and the driver swerved onto the sidewalk.
 2. The HOA is requesting that a speed bump be installed.
 3. After a short discussion, the following were noted:
 - a. A study was conducted for the installation of speed bumps on that portion of Merridale Avenue. Due to the proximity to the Lorien – Mt. Airy Elderly Care and the frequent traffic by emergency vehicles, the recommendation was that no speed bumps be installed.
 - b. Traffic enforcement has been frequent in that area.
 - c. This is not a pedestrian issue.

- c. Comments by Sean Kelly (outgoing S&R member) - CLOSED
 1. Sean Kelly's comments, sent in an email to all S&R members, were mentioned.
 2. Barney Quinn responded to the comments about the Flat Iron building:
 - a. There is no widening of the sidewalk alongside the Flat Iron building planned or funded.
 - b. There are no plans or funding to create three (3) additional parking spaces.
 - c. There was a short but heated discussion between Karl and Ted about whether people should even be using this narrow sidewalk, with Karl stating people should know better not to use it and Ted saying that if the sidewalk is there, whether you are a resident or not, you are tempted to use it, since you don't realize its narrow design until you start walking on it; this is especially true for visitors.
 - d. Mayor Hushour had suggested blocking off this sidewalk in an earlier email.
 - e. Street parking on S. Main in front of the Flat Iron building cannot be addressed until the final plan for the building is approved and we have a better idea of the road width.

- d. Manhole on Southbound Main St., just before Prospect Rd. – NEW ITEM
 - 1. Michael mentioned driving over this manhole cover is like driving over a pothole
 - 2. Erich said he will look into it.

- e. White Lines on So. Main St. – NEW ITEM
 - 1. This is the request that Steve Domotor had made in an earlier meeting.

X. Adjournment and Next Meeting

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM, motioned by Ted, seconded by Michael. The next meeting will be held on 7/29/25 at 7 pm in Town Hall.