



TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN

TOWN COUNCIL

January 20, 2026


REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

Time: 6:00 PM

Town Hall Council Chambers | 160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711

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1. CALL TO ORDER

1.A. Welcome -
Motion:

2. QUORUM

2.A. Determination of Quorum -
Motion:

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. AGENDA

4.A. To adopt the agenda as presented [or as amended] -
Motion:

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.A. To adopt the minutes of November 18, 2025, and December 16, 2025, as

written [or as amended] -

Motion:

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.A. Finalize Report to Council -

Motion:

7.B. Reports/Updates from Town -

Motion:

7.C. Discussion about Current Sidewalks -

Motion:

8. DISCUSSION

9. ADJOURNMENT



TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN Active Mobility Commission

Town Hall, 160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711 and/or online

Date: January 20, 2026 Time: 6:00 **Regular Meeting**

The agenda and all related documentation may be accessed electronically via Wi-Fi in Town Hall. From your laptop or smartphone, access the Town's website at www.townofblackmountain.org. Click on **Town Government** and select **Active Mobility** to download materials for all Town Council meetings.

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Should you need other assistance or accommodation for this meeting, please contact The Planning Senior Admin at 419-9371, or by email at planning@tobm.org.
(828) 419-9371 / TDD (800) 735-2962

- I. **Call to Order** Chair
- II. **Quorum**
- III. **Public Comment**
Public Comment will also be permitted after each discussion.
- IV. **Agenda** -review and modify
- V. **Adoption of Minutes** Chair
November 2025 and December 2025
- VI. **Old Business**
- VII. **New Business**
 - a. Finalize Report to Council
 - b. Reports/Updates from Town
 - c. Discussion about Current Sidewalks
- VIII. **Discussion**
- IX. **Adjournment**

Active Mobility Commission Minutes
December 16, 2025

Call to Order

Julie White called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Quorum

Members Present: Julie White, Jeremy Claeys, Lisa Raleigh, Janice Rausch

Staff Present: Russell Cate

Old Business

Russell Cate gave the following updates from the town:

1. Resolution of Support for the crosswalks on E State Street and Flat Creek Road.
We included letter of support from the AMC and they approved both. Once it is signed, I will send it over to Randy Tritt and Anna Henderson at DOT.
2. Discussion of Possible Items for Yearly Report
Will be on the February Agenda under communications – Wesley already has a placeholder set.
3. Updates about Relevant Projects
EB5547 – bus shelter is in production – should take about 5 weeks – will have a bike rack.
Meeting with DOT tomorrow morning about placement – Public Works will pour the pad – we would like AMC to have a ribbon cutting once it's installed. No other updates on the project – have a call tomorrow with the consultant and Jennifer will send out an update after that.

Dog Park – back open as of last week

Floodbench Project – on track – looking as if construction could start as early as July – will be completed by the end of December

Feasibility and Master Plan for Donated Properties – still on hold for time being.

Ridgecrest Connector – did not receive funding from Buncombe County Open Space funds – looking for additional options to fund project.

Golf Course – Front Nine – bridge repair is out to bid – expect to pave once it is warm enough and asphalt plant opens back up
4. Updates on Veteran's Park Bridge – damage assessment and method of repair will be sent to FEMA in mid-January, but maybe earlier

New Business

Positive Communications: Jeremy suggested that we publicize what we are doing well and accomplishing. Methods to do this included posting on social media, commenting at council meetings, and submitting items to the monthly newsletter the town puts out. Celina is now in charge of that. Jeremy offered to work on this.

Dedication of bus shelter: Commission members agreed that it was the bus shelter was not really relevant to the commission since it dealt with transit and not active mobility. Additionally we had no involvement in the design or placement of the stop. While we appreciate having the opportunity to being a part of a positive project in town, we do not feel we are the appropriate group.

Items for Yearly Report: This will be on the February council agenda under Communications. We decided that we would present short, mid and long term goals. Short term goals would include safety issues such as the crosswalks on the I-40 ramps, lack of pedestrian access along parts of Sutton Avenue, and the importance of Lake Tomahawk Greenway for safe pedestrian access. Mid term goals would include the bridge across the Swannanoa River to access Veteran's Park, making the "social" path part of the Flat Creek Greenway permanent, and completion of EB5547. Long term goals include the completion of the Fonta Flora Trails through town.

Julie will write up and distribute what was discussed to the commission for review. The suggestion will be finalized at our January meeting.

Adjournment

Julie adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Julie White

**Active Mobility Commission Minutes
November 18, 2025**

I. Call to Order

Julie White called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

II. Quorum

Members Present: Jeremy Claeys, Julie White, Kristie Bergna, Kyle Cole, Karen Neal

Staff Present: Jennifer Tipton, Russell Cate, Michelle Kennedy

NCDOT Present: Anna Henderson, Randy Tritt

III. Public Comment

- a. No public comment

IV. Agenda - review and modify

No agenda, NCDOT to answer Commission member questions regarding crosswalks and road access for non vehicular traffic.

V. Old Business

No old business to review.

VI. NCDOT Question Reviews

a. NCDOT Rules & Process

All crosswalks must connect sidewalks with a destination, i.e. sidewalks can't stop shortly after crosswalk without terminating at a place people will use. NCDOT installs sidewalks only on new roads, towns place and maintain sidewalks on existing roads, and NCDOT will add crosswalks as necessary.

Funding requests for new projects are submitted on a quarterly basis and compete against projects throughout the state. Funding is usually not a problem, and usually is secured in either the first or second round of submission. A letter of support from the town is useful to reiterate the importance of the project locally. Once projects are funded, NCDOT sources materials and hires contractors for installation, sourcing materials is the longest part of the process.

Non traffic signal crosswalks must meet certain criteria before NCDOT can submit for funding. The crosswalk must be 300 feet from non signal crosswalks or 400 feet from signaled crosswalks. If that criteria isn't met, the town administration can ask for a NCDOT analysis to determine pedestrian usage of the route. The analysis consists of counting the average number of people crossing at that location and must show 25 people crossing/hour for four hours of the day (can be non-contiguous). This analysis can be conducted during the busiest time of year.

b. Highway 9 Crosswalks at Interstate 40

NCDOT confirmed that if requested, they can begin the funding proposal process for crosswalks on Highway 9 at the westbound 40 on ramp and the eastbound 40 on/off ramp. These crosswalks will connect Ingles to downtown Black Mountain. Julie White will write a letter to the town council for the December meeting to formally request that the town endorses NCDOT beginning the process to add these sidewalks.

c. Current NCDOT Black Mountain Projects

NCDOT is looking to enhance the current crosswalks at the schools on Flat Creek Road and Old 70. They are preparing to submit these items for funding and asked for a letter of support from the town and schools to increase the chances of funding being granted.

d. Temporary Bridge on Blue Ridge Road

NCDOT will look to see what other signage can be posted that will make the rules more clear for vehicles. A temporary signal isn't feasible at this location due to the possibility of back traffic up onto the railroad tracks or to the light at 70 and Blue Ridge Road. Currently the replacement bridge is slated for 2026 installation, which has plans for pedestrian and cyclist lanes.

VII. Discussion

VIII. Adjournment

Julie White adjourned the meeting at 5:45 pm.