

ASHLAND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

March 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM; Zoom

Members Present: Linda Peterson-Adams, Mark Brouillard, Joe Graf, Dave Kahn, Dave Richards, Dylan Dahle, Nick David, Julia Sommer, Corinne Vieville

Staff Present: Scott Fleury, Derek Severson, Marlena Correnti

Council Liaison Present: Eric Hansen

Guests Present: Gary Shaff, Alan Harper – SOU, Becs Walker – SOU Sustainability, Rob Patride – SOU Facilities, Leon Crouch – SOU Facilities, Thor Morris, Edem Gomez – RVTD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- April is [Distracted Driving Safety Month](#)
 - Most crashes in our community are caused by distracted driving
 - Awareness post to go up on City's social media accounts
 - Take the pledge to #JustDrive on nsc.org/JustDrive

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of February 20, 2025 Minutes
 - Peterson-Adams proposes correction to Near Miss Survey: Cottle – Communications Specialist to promote Near Miss survey (*not Cotta*)
 - Graf proposes to omit first bullet under Signals at Beach, Morse, and Siskiyou.

Dylan motions to make proposed changes to February 20, 2025 Minutes; Graf seconds. Approved.

PUBLIC FORUM

- Thank you to all in-person and online contacts.
- Morris- Ashland resident, SS4E volunteer- voices the importance of regularly allocating funds to bike and pedestrian improvements rather than rely solely on grants.
 - CIP: repave Siskiyou before Oak Street
 - Add protective bike lanes on Hersey

REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY COMMITTEES

- Parks: Brouillard: re: Kestrel Park – if parking is removed from one side of street, congestion will be alleviated on entire street
- Historical Preservation: getting ready to announce the opening of Pioneer Hall
 - Fleury estimates early April for Pioneer Hall access; Community center to re-open around July or August 2025
- CEPAC: Dahle and Peterson-Adams attended the workgroup; CIP discussed, SS4E and RVTD were represented and encouraged bicycle connectivity
- Oregon State University Multi-Modal MUTCD Course by Peter Kuntz of PBOT reflects changes and updates to MUTCD that facilitate guarded travel opportunity for cyclists. Consultant engineers to keep abreast of evolving bike-ped transportation. Fleury to provide slide deck in April TAC packet.
 - *MUTCD = Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*
 - *PBOT: Portland Bureau of Transportation*
- April 26, 2025: [Rogue Valley Bike Swap](#)
 - Fleury to connect with Gomez

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NEW BUSINESS

Southern Oregon University Master Plan Review

- SOU current state
 - In-person students decline
 - Housing on campus declines significantly
 - Bicycle parking increased
 - 13 shelters (260 spots)
 - 4 shelters located near the student rec center; routinely half-full
 - Shasta & McGlaughlin: secure bike storage within each resident hall to mitigate theft
 - Contract with Barnes & Noble to get bike locks
 - Overall utilization does not suggest need for additional bicycle shelters
 - Vehicle parking spaces stable; 1788 spaces
 - Vehicle permits declined 18% in the last three years
- Capital Improvements
 - Athletics map – softball facility to bring talent and energy in addition to pedestrian mall from Raider Village down past the stadium (integrated pedestrian mall)
 - Farms near ScienceWorks – projects coming soon
 - RFP (Request for Proposals) currently out for 4-5 pieces of property
- Student Population
 - SOU is the largest student employer in Ashland community
 - Patride: programs and opportunities identified as community and workforce needs are being funded more heavily for student offerings to help grow enrollment and stabilize the local economy, including:
 - Film
 - Behavioral Health
 - 2010 Plan: Severson notes major circulation shift lead to diagonal crossing on Siskiyou
 - Gomez: Student bus passes increased in recent years, and RVTD service hours have expanded
- Sustainability Goals
 - EV charging
 - Promote car-sharing incentivized by reduced parking permit expense
 - Transport surveys go out every couple of years to gauge student interest
- Feedback
 - Kahn: concerned about lack of bike program and absence of bicycle lanes on campus
 - Notes pre-COVID bike program existed 2011-2020
 - Sommer: parking lot across from music recital hall has motorcycle parking but NO bicycle parking/lockup
 - Brouillard: emphasizes need to safely store e-bikes indoors
 - Fleury in relation to softball complex off Wightman: *Is the intent to have tournament games there, or regular season games only? Note: Tournament games would increase traffic.*

TAC formally invites SOU Students to liaison for TAC!

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: 7:08 PM

Transportation Capital Plan Review (7:00-7:30)

- TAC charged with formal review and to make recommendations based on policies and priorities of Council
- Fleury: Middle Clay St improvement moving forward
- Overlays/rehabs: design process on N Mountain progressing

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- Partial construction on Oak Street
 - Hardscape improvements expected in fall and winter
 - Asphalt in spring (paving, striping) to avoid major fire danger

Brouillard moves to have Public Works forward CIP list to City council; Dahle seconds. Approved unanimously.

E-Bike Discussion (7:30-7:45)

- 2-year window for continued bicycle and pedestrian improvements to B Street and 8th Street (based on Kittelson Corridor Analysis)
 - Potential for temporary traffic circles to be installed and monitored
 - Formal crosswalk striping along corridor
 - Conversion of Hersey Street to bicycle boulevard
 - Evaluate the feasibility of extending Central Ashland Bike Path
 - Anticipating adoption by the Council on April 1, 2025 meeting
- Public comments collected will be combined as an attachment for the Council
- Hansen: reports that the full Council supports education surrounding e-bikes and their safe use
 - Kahn: volunteers to assist with education piece; Brouillard as backup volunteer
 - Safety, respect, conscious purchasing, and appropriate use are paramount

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- Wayfinding Project Update – Deputy received email on Monday, March 17th; ETA 1 month to planning
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Process Update
 - Fleury continues to follow up with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), awaiting final approval on grant agreement
- Transportation System Plan Update (TSP Update)
 - Brouillard and Fleury to review submittals
 - ODOT working through scoring; Follow up for selection news on April 4, 2025
- Goodbye (for now), TAC! Sommer respectfully resigns from TAC.

AGENDA BUILDING – Future Meetings

- Residential permit parking for 2026
- April Agenda: Review the idea of paid parking in downtown; *add verbiage to TSP?*
 - Consider modal equity and adding downtown proper back to City of Ashland

ADJOURNMENT: 07: 48 PM

Next Meeting Date: April 17, 2025, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marlena Correnti, Administrative Assistant