

ASHLAND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 21, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 pm

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

Members Not Present:

Staff Present: Scott Fleury, Derek Severson

Council Liaison Present: No attendance by Hansen or Bloom

Guests Present: Dave Kahn, Gary Schaf, Michael Mehaffy, Michael Weinstock, Kelly Sandow

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ashland is currently under a winter weather advisory.

The City has a new app, See/Click/Fix on the website ashlandoregon.gov.

There are vacancies on City committees currently and volunteers can represent two committees if interested.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes amended as follows:

Page 2 at the bottom under chip seal complaint portal, should say City website not just website.

Page 3 blackberries growing across should say **no** bike lane instead of non bike lanes.

Page 5 under bike parking says in front of one of the houses, should be in front of the North Mountain Nature Center.

Richards motioned to approve the minutes with corrections. Dahle seconded, All ayes.

PUBLIC FORUM

Thanks to individuals who provided comments on traffic issues at Nutley and Granite, on the Ashland St. bike lane improvements and the striping at Beach and Siskiyou. The TAC and staff will follow up in the markings at Beach/Siskiyou in the future and the traffic congestion issues at Nutley and Granite are part of an ongoing conversation right now with the Parks Department.

REPORTS FROM OTHER CITY COMMITTEES

- No update regarding from SERJ for the group.
- Sommers reviewed the 100-year Parks Plan and provided comments on the Winburn Way reconfiguration, and the Capital Improvement plan is out for public comment until December 15th.
- The Planning Commission sent the Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities recommendations to City Council.
- No transportation related items at the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee meeting.
- No transportation related items at the Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee meeting.
- Schaf provides update for the Climate and Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (CEPAC). They have finished their workplan update and the update of the TSP update ranks high on their process. The CEPAC is continuing with the urban land use and transportation workgroup items as well.
- No RVACT and no RVMPO update, RVMPO meeting in early December will combine November and December meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Croman Site Development Type III

Michael Mehaffy (Townmakers) and Kelly Sandow (Sandow Engineering) in attendance and present the proposed Croman site development project to the TAC. Mehaffy provides overview of the history of the Croman Mill Site and

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the proposed transportation network improvements that include vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian improvements. 6 acres of the over 60 acre total site are what is being considered for annexation as part of the Type III planning approval process. The site is currently undergoing cleanup under the regulatory control of the Department of Environmental Quality.

As part of the transportation network the Townmakers are trying to retain the grid system that is walkable and bikeable as part of the recommended changes to the original master planning for the site that was done in the mid 2000's (AMC 18.32). The develop is trying to follow the work, live & play development scenario, where people can walk to work and walk to shopping from their home/residential until (walkable/mixed use). As part of the application process, they will provide recommended code changes to the Croman zone outlined in AMC 18.32 as the code changes will correlate to changes in the street layout for the full 60+ acre site. These changes will also include updates to the zoning for varying developments (single family, multifamily, commercial & light industrial). Townmakers is also coordinating with RVTD on bus stop locations through the primary access route of the proposed development. They will also be constructing the multiuse path adjacent to the railroad line on the northeast portion of the property. This will connect to its termination at Tolman Creek Road. They are also coordinating with ODOT on installation of a roundabout for the tie in connection to Siskiyou Boulevard.

Sadow explains the vehicular, bike, and pedestrian network for the proposed development improvements. The primary roadway through the development is proposed to include two 10' travel lanes, a 7' parking area, a 2' protected door buffer to a 6' bike lane and a 10' sidewalk/parkrow areas. The intent is to also have centralized parking that will allow people to access services without having to get back in a vehicle and repark.

The TAC provided comments on the proposal including the following:

1. Concern over 3 points of ingress and egress from and emergency evacuation standpoint
2. Recommend they provide a traffic control plan for varying evacuation scenarios that would benefit the City operationally
3. What is the contingency plan for development (land area) if all of the proposed parking is not needed in the future (autonomous vehicles)
4. Permeable parking/paving would be a benefit in meeting the City's climate goals (heat island, storm drainage)
5. Speed reduction treatments would be required for installation of a roundabout on Siskiyou Boulevard and the TSP has a speed reduction study near that location associated with westbound approach near Bellview School (35mph)
6. Maybe a roundabout can be looked at during the TSP for Tolman/Siskiyou due to the intersection dynamics and speed
7. Sidewalk infill on Siskiyou from development to Tolman Creek is important
8. Concern was expressed over the 10' travel lane with a 7' parking area as being nominal creating limited space and speed reduction is critical for this cross section
9. Consider a couple of appropriately placed radar speed signs in critical locations

E-bike discussion

The TAC had a conversation about the types of E-bikes and the rules/regulations that apply to the various types and what can be done from an educational and enforcement basis. Officer MacLennan is concerned that the State isn't keeping up with the E-bike regulations associated with their growth and changes making them more powerful and faster. This issue also applies to electric skateboards and one-wheels that go over 20mph. APD has done some outreach to students and parents at schools about the rules and regulations as it appears parents are not aware of the requirements. The TAC believes education followed by enforcement is very important as most people truly don't

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understand the rules/requirements for owning and riding an electric bike or other e-vehicle. The question of licensing was posed as a possible regulatory mechanism that would be upfronted by meeting educational requirements. Speed is truly an issue that creates the safety hazards the PD and TAC have been made aware of. There is a concern of even how to differentiate between the classes of E-bikes as part of an enforcement regime. Speed zone enforcement cameras were discussed as an enforcement mechanism. A more restrictive requirement for regulating E-bikes could be developed as part of the municipal code with respect to licensing. Also, some outreach to the school district superintendent and then to parents is a potential path forward.

Discussion to be continued in December.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Workplan Review

The TAC reviews the workplan outline in the packet for the current biennium budget and what items need to be added or what can come off in order to prepare for the Council update at the December 16th Study Session.

Additions to workplan moving forward:

1. Water St. at recycling center (one-way)
2. Van Ness/A St./Oak St. intersection improvements (Oak St. design)
3. Add E-bikes to education/enforcement component (continuous)
 - a. Add SOU/Public Schools to the education/outreach bullet
4. Bike parking implementation phase (inventory complete) (coordinate with Parks)
5. Encroachment Ordinance and guideline update
 - a. Garbage can encroachment issues in ROW
6. Cooperative work with Public Arts and Historic and other committees on future artistic crosswalk installation

Removed:

1. Bird scooters removed
2. Parklet program removed

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Safe Streets and Roads for All

Fleury informed the group that he's filling out the grant agreement currently for SS4A, and that City of Medford (who already got the grant) gave him their documents for solicitation so he could use them when making those documents for Ashland. Fleury stated he would try to get it done by the end of the year.

TSP

ODOT should be advertising the TSP update in December. Brouillard is part of the selection committee and the TAC will review the draft scope of work negotiated with the selected consultant. CIP projects will be brought before the TAC in February March (roadway/bike/pedestrian)

Bike Parking

Committee would like the new Parks Director to attend a future meeting to talk about bike parking and potential changes to Winburn/Granite/Nutley.

ADJOURNMENT: @ 8:07

*Respectfully submitted,
Scott Fleury PE, Public Works Director*