

Eugene Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee



Public Works
Engineering

City of Eugene
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Date: Thursday, July 12, 2012
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Location: Sloat Conference Room
Atrium Building, 99 W. 10th Ave (**Enter from the back alley off 10th Ave**)
Eugene, OR 97401

BPAC Members Present: Sasha Luftig, Shane MacRhodes, Tom Schneider, Judi Horstman, Harriet Behm, Jim Patterson, Edem Gomez

BPAC Members Absent: Fred Tepfer, Rex Fox, Rex Redmond, Anya Dowbrowolski, David Gizara, Holly McRae, Jennifer Smith

Staff: Lee Shoemaker, Reed Dunbar, Lindsay Selser, Chris Henry, Patricia Thomas, Natalie Stiffler, Lisa VanWinkle

Members of the Public: Vicky Mello, Kelsey Moore, David Sonnichson, Rich InLove, Carlos Berrara, Tom Bainbridge, Christie Schlesinger, Dan Schlesinger, Mellissa Finn, Greg Glesy, Nancy Ellen Locke

Agenda

1. Open Meeting –

- Judi is filling in as chair in Holly's absence. Meeting called to order at 5:30pm. Only 7 members are present therefore there is no quorum (simple majority is required). No decisions will be made tonight.

2. Public Comment

- Melissa Finn-Cycle Pub
 - Cycle Pub is a pedal powered, social vehicle, for activities, breweries, wine tours, birthday parties etc. They have 3 different routes.
 - Looking for support for the business and see if there are any concerns from the BPAC. Working PDD for license.
 - This has been done in Bend and Portland. 6ft-wide/16ft long. For roads mostly, not meant for bike paths. Already have local partners. Can't avoid 5th Ave, but since it has lots of parking there is plenty of room to pull over.
 - PDD has concerns about ORS statutes about impeding traffic but both Bend and Portland have made the same vehicle work under the statutes.

- Would like for BPAC members/staff to be supportive to the PDD staff in making this happen. Help in making it as safe and fun experience for all.
- David Sonnichson – Kudos on the improvements on the north end of Knickerbocker bridge. He was happy that Mr. Shoemaker was supportive of the new design. Appreciates the new path. Dislikes the “glare” of the concrete.
- Rich InLove – More college age people are not using cars and are using buses and bikes. Young people aren’t getting cars so we need to plan for that.

3. Approve June 14, Meeting Summary Notes

- No quorum - minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

4. South Willamette Street Improvement Plan

- Chris Henry will provide an overview of the transportation study that will get underway this year
- Transportation Growth Management project, funded by Oregon Dept. of Transportation and Oregon Dept. of Land Conservation and Development. We now have a contract but we have not completed the scope of work yet and we’re working with consultants to finalize that. DKS and Cogito are consultants.
- BPAC is a critical stakeholder. Will keep them involved throughout the process.
- Stakeholder interviews in August with focus group sessions in Sept. Chris Watchie will be the main bike/ped consultant from Cogito.
- Bike Station, BPAC, Arriving by Bike, Bikes on Willamette, LTD, SRTS, School Solutions, Cascade Manor and ADA advocates were listed as potential bike/ped groups to be involved.
- Provide BPAC with monthly updates starting in Sept. Project overview available next week.
- Chris Henry can add you to the interested party list if you wish.
- Willamette St. has been around for over 100 years. Mostly a four lane road that does not function well for any user. Vibrant commercial corridor that can be accessed with all modes of transportation. Narrow ROW, roughly 60ft.
 - Could reconfigure the travel lanes. Could add on street parking, add bike lanes or widen sidewalks, add street trees etc. Potentially parallel routes, coming out of PDD planning process. People want to move not just through the corridor but to and within it.
- Process will take over a year. We’ll finish with a concept that can move into a capital project to be built. We want to end on a design that the “community” wants to build.

- Harriet asked about previous studies and asked if we will use them. Chris says they will inform the current discussion but will not be the starting point.
- Tom is wondering if we could put the buses on Oak street? Chris reminds us that there are connectivity issues with Oak and that Peds need to be closer to the destinations than even bikes. Tom urges staff to remember peds, and people with disabilities.
- Chris says that Neighborhood Associations are part of a focus group (crest, FAN and SEN). Dan Burden produced a report that is also part of the information for the study. PBMP also has ideas for the corridor.
- Harriet points out that you go to one business and then leave. It's not a place to "land". It's not that you go to one business and then to another. And she would like to become more of a "landing place".
- Chris – says that maybe we go with a "phased approach". Fit within the ROW now and as we move ahead in the future we update as we go. Costs are a real issue. Reconfigure private parking to public parking, or reconfigure access...all things that are on the table that we will want to work with individual businesses on.
- Judi asks, Can we put information placards along the route, in the stores or at the bus stops that maybe we can get interested peds for the stakeholder groups. Get as much involvement as possible.
- Project runs from 24th – 32nd Ave.

5. West Eugene EmX Environmental Assessment Document Public Comment Period (15 min)

Action Requested: Presentation and discussion

- Lisa VanWinkle and Natalie Stiffler will provide an overview on how to comment on the EA and where additional information can be found
- The EA could be released on Monday for public review from the FTA. It will be available on the website www.weeemx.ltd.org, also at many public offices and the libraries. Input and review will go up until Aug. 29th.
- During review period July 25th and Aug 7th will be drop in events from 12:00pm to 7pm at the LTD Next Stop Center.
- FTA is looking for review of issues that were not addressed in the EA and comments that apply to the methodology/findings of the review.
- At the conclusion of the public comment period FTA will do a final review. If approved we move to final local review. If the Locally Preferred Alternative is approved by Eugene City Council we move forward to design. Design-Engineering 2012-14, Construction 2015-16, open 2017.
- Staff recommends looking over the executive summary, it is very comprehensive, encompasses all the findings.
- Tom doesn't think that there will be many significant challenges to the traffic flow methodology.

- FONSI=Finding of No Significant Impact.
- There has been talk of taking it to a public vote by the opposition. It could go to a public vote in many different ways.
- BPAC asked what they could do to support the EmX in West Eugene and LTD staff suggests that the most powerful thing may be to inform City Councilors of how BPAC feels. Edem will email info about Yes West Eugene Emx.
- Rich InLove has concerns about bike lanes on W 11th.

6. 2013 Pavement Preservation Projects (10 min) - Reed

Action Requested: Presentation and Discussion

- Reed highlighted projects that have PBMP ties.
- Reed would like to know how to engage the community around these projects and what ideas people have.
- Want to make sure that we give people enough time to chew on these proposed changes this round. We'll start the process in Aug. or Sept.
- Send the list out to the whole BPAC. Add column for what the PBMP says.
- 5thAve between Hwy 99 and BHR, lots of room and what do we do with it?
- When there is room to do what's in the PBMP we don't have to have such a huge discussion. When there is NOT room that's when we need to have a larger discussion.
- Shane would like to see the plans earlier.
- Tom observed that many people on Roosevelt are walking in the bike lane. Can we make it safer for people to walk in the bike lane where there is no sidewalk.
- Reed prefers to get ahead of the designs, draft a memo of what we want, where.
- Shane asks if we can add speed humps on Alder Ave? Reed says not with the Bond money but maybe with other monies. The sooner the better so we can work with TO, NA, and collecting the money.

7. Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Project Prioritization (10 min) - Reed

Action Requested: Information share

- Reed met with Infrastructure committee. We have a nicely done tool for prioritization. Reed will work to make more sense of it and then go back to the infrastructure committee. They'll meet in a couple weeks and then come back to BPAC in August. Yearly they will review the priorities. Available money will also push projects up because we can go for them right away.

8. Recruitment of New Members - Lee

- These members terms will end Dec 2012: Harriet Behm, Rex Fox, Rex Redmond, Shane MacRhodes, Tom Schneider, Jennifer Smith, and Fred Tepfer.

- Timeline for replacement
- Recruitment Methods
 - Would really like to have geographic diversity, all different kinds of diversity and groups represented. Need to have the BPAC help to recruit.
- Application/Interviews
 - Would be helpful to have contacts from Harlow Smarttrips and NAs. Judi and Jim would volunteer to go chat with people. Shane is interested in making sure SRTS connections, UO etc.
 - Tom would like us to recruit members early and have them sit in on meeting before their term starts.
 - Harriet would like “problem children” on the committee.
 - Tom would like us to consider extending Shane’s term.

9. Bicycle Friendly Community Reapplication - Reed

- Application due in February – more information next meeting so we can have time to talk about Capstone/12th Ave closure.

10. 2012 Transportation Project Update – Staff

- Skipped this to talk about Capstone/12th Ave closure. Anything pertinent will be mentioned in Info Share.

11. Information Share

- Capstone/12th Avenue Closure – Reed
 - We have received **A LOT** of calls on this. Learning from what happened this time and now working on forming a new protocol around this sort of situation. Fence is going to stay up and will remain up for 12-13 months. A website is set up on Capstone and alternative routes (shown at meeting) will be posted online and in InMotion. Info will explain that folks can use sidewalks and also what the end result will be.
 - Judi suggested that the alternative routes and the information should be on the fences as well.
 - Tom observed various routes being taken, including private parking lots and wondered if folks can use those and if we would be signing them? Reed reminded everyone that the whole area is going to be closed down but many of the fences are not up yet. Many options Tom may have saw in use will probably be closed soon.
 - Reed reiterated that it really is going to be a construction site and will not be a comfortable site for a year so it really is best to go around.
 - Tom mentioned that there may be major asbestos problems in this area so, it will be best to avoid the area.
- New process for state funding of projects. Staff is recommending the High/Pearl project as the first choice for this new funding

process. It will need significant public process. Fall back of Jessen Path (beltline – terry or ohio). Send other ideas if you think of anything else.

- Bond measure – Lee reminds BPAC that they must stay neutral in their discussions of the bond measure now that it is on the ballot. He will email more information.
- Staff meeting with Ops to talk about cycle track on Pearl/High
- Tom updated on the Churchill walkability study.
- Fiesta Latina, Saturday the 27th – Include Eugene Sunday Streets
- SRTS – funding approved for Shane and Nichole for another year!
- Shane attended statewide Walk/Bike retreat in Bend – talked about vision for the state.
- Shane taught a League of American Bicyclists – LCI seminar in Portland. Shane will soon be a coach and that will be great for the EUG/SFP region. He recommends taking the Traffic Skills 101 9-hour course.
- Blackberry bRamble on August 5th – www.eugenegears.org
- Oregon League of Conservation Voters will host an open house informing people of their “Ban the plastic bag” campaign at Davis at 5:30pm Monday, and show the Bag It video at Cosmic Pizza on Thursday at 7:30pm.

12. Adjourn