

## Eugene Active Transportation Committee



Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019  
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Sloat Conference Room  
Atrium Building, 99 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Eugene, OR 97401 (Enter from the back alley off 10<sup>th</sup> Ave)

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[www.eugene-or.gov/atc](http://www.eugene-or.gov/atc)

**Attendance:** Brian Johnson, Bob Blyth, Marina Herrera, Allen Hancock, Josh Kashinsky, Michael DeLuise, Nick Alviani, Robbie Dow, Sam Miller, Kelsey Moore, Amy Harter

**Absent:** Michele O’Leary, Bob Beals, Lindsey Hayward

**Staff:** Lee Shoemaker, Larisa Varela, Andy Kading

**Members of the Public:** Brad Foster, David Sonnichsen, Connie Berglund, Seth Sadofsky, Syd Shoaf

### Summary Notes

#### 1. Open Meeting

#### 2. Public Comment (5:30-5:40)

Syd Shoaf, new Bethel Safe Routes to School Coordinator. Sarah and Syd plan on alternating meetings to provide updates on SRTS Program.

Seth Sadofsky expressed concerns for how long snow and ice was present on sidewalks after snow storm. Feels arterials should be prioritized during/after snow storms to make sure maintaining sidewalks is a priority. Seth feels like the City should take responsibility for maintenance or enforce City code regarding maintenance. Concern for people with mobility challenges. Bus stops should also be priority.

Michael DeLuise responded that in the past, we have discuss education campaign because most property owners don’t know it is their responsibility to maintain sidewalks. Need to start with raising awareness of property owners.

Brad Foster also expressed concerns regarding sidewalks. City should send out annual mailer educating people about their responsibility for sidewalks during snow events. Also felt like bike facilities – lanes and paths were ignored or made worse by plowing travel lanes.

Connie Berglund from Amazon Neighborhood commenting on LTD presentation on Transit Tomorrow from last month – neighborhood concern that they are going to become a transit dessert, puts almost 10,000 households with no access including older adults and K-12 children. Connie feels like LTD has not listened or responded to her engagement and participation in the past. Josh encouraged her to attend LTD meetings. Connie said, “why bother?”

**3. Approve January 10, 2019 and February 14, 2019 Meeting Summary Notes (5:40-5:45)**

Action Requested: Approve Meeting Notes

January and February meeting notes approved unanimously approved.

**4. Difficult Intersections (5:45-6:15)**

Action Requested: Discussion

Presenter: Andy Kading

ATC provided background/history of how difficult intersection list was generated. Intersections were added to the list if they were Vision Zero intersections, had difficult signals, were confusing, and/or not friendly for people walking. No specific criteria. Physical site visit occurred for all site visits. List has been provided to ATC.

Andy Kading, Traffic Operations Engineer, which means he is responsible for street lights and traffic signals. Background – Civil Engineer, graduate research in Portland and abroad in European cities. City appreciated lists and is grateful that Vision Zero intersections

Currently conducting comprehensive study for River Road corridor. \$7 Million in pending grant funding in upgrades.

Andy communicated that Vision Zero intersections are priorities, will be addressed first. Beyond that, could assume that we could address about ½ dozen improvements to difficult intersections per year. Would be helpful to Public Works if ATC prioritized list.

Andy would look for intersections that have obvious characteristics that could be changed. Examples include: signal timing, right hook issues with people biking (could be addresses with signal timing). Parking violation is trickier because EPD does not have capacity to enforce traffic laws currently. Sam suggested that bike lanes could have delineators.

Would be helpful if ATC provided prioritized list from ATC perspective.

Marina expressed importance of near misses in saving lives. Important to understand street characteristics in design that could prevent fatal crashes. Andy communicated that Vision Zero Action Plan aims to predict and prevent crashes.

Although Vision Zero Action Plan has not been adopted, Public Works is still implementing Vision Zero Actions, especially by being proactive in approach to traffic safety.

ATC will conduct site visit of intersections again to provide prioritized list and photographs to the City. Infrastructure committee will lead effort to move prioritization of list forward. ATC will develop timeline for prioritizing list and goal

to routinely revisit list in the future, annually. City budgets based on fiscal year, timing list with City budget cycle would help ensure success in City applying funding to difficult intersections.

Sam reminded ATC that members don't necessarily represent all levels of cyclists. Allen agreed and suggested that ATC reach out to wider community to prioritize list, more public involvement would bring more perspectives together.

Future ATC agenda item interest in connectivity and completing bicycle network. Still on list of future agenda items.

## **5. Snow Event and Active Transportation (6:15-6:30)**

### Action Requested: Discussion

Michael emphasized importance of education campaign, raising awareness of property owner responsibility, having access to a shovel, etc. In addition to snow, leaves in the fall are important too. Kelsey expressed importance of educating businesses, even though responsibility falls on property owner. Could City change code to apply to property owners and business owners? City could send out press release to remind people of responsibility.

Successes - Downtown did an okay job this year. Bike paths, entire system was plowed, which was better than in years past, true success. Plowing bike path created a corridor where people could both bike and walk (ex. Amazon path). Bike lanes were plowed on some of the major arterials, all the way up to curbside. Less use of gravel and clean -up of gravel was improvement over previous years, appreciated by ATC members and their colleagues. Creating avenues for people to be educated – create volunteer list, neighborhood door to door campaigns, and social media campaigns (with hashtag) – create a positive social atmosphere.

Volunteers could help plow priority routes in their neighborhood, specific snow routes for pedestrians. Could research best practices among other Pacific Northwest. Next Door could be tool to use to connect needs with service. Media could also be used to help educate, including social media (Facebook and Instagram).

In addition to snow and ice, fallen branches created a challenge as well.

Encourage people to help each other, could write letter to newspaper editors, shopping centers were shoveling parking lots, but not sidewalks.

City put out two press releases a day in addition to social media. City response during winter events for people biking will improve each year as the City learns from year to year.

Intersections were hard to cross because ramps weren't shoveled and snow medians were created.

Providing access to shovels is important. Neighborhood associations could loan shovels and volunteer to help neighbors. CERT volunteers appeared to help with downtown, could they help with neighborhoods as well?

## **6. Franklin Boulevard Transformation (6:30-7:00)**

Action Requested: Presentation and Discussion

Presenter: Larisa Varela

<https://www.eugene-or.gov/3830/Franklin-Boulevard>

Larisa Varela provided an update to the Franklin Boulevard Transportation project. She stated the study area was Franklin between I-5 and Alder and Garden Avenue due to the gap in the South Bank Path in this area.

There are some policies that are guiding the Franklin Boulevard process: Envision Eugene; Eugene 2035 Transportation System Plan; Climate Recovery Ordinance; Walnut Station Specific Area Plan. Franklin Blvd. is identified as one of the six key corridors in the City of Eugene.

### Project Purpose

- Transform Franklin Boulevard from an automobile-oriented arterial to:
  - a safe, comfortable, high quality, walking, biking, and transit street while accommodating drivers;
  - be consistent with adopted land use and transportation plans; &
  - be supportive to changes in urban form and mixed use development.

### Project Timeline:

- January 2019 Design Workshops #1
- May 2019 Design Workshops #2
- 2010 National Environmental Policy Act
- 2020-2021 Grant Applications
- 2022+ Reconstruction if grant funds are available

Larisa said in addition to the four workshop events in January there were focus group interviews with business and property owners, UO community, commuters, tree community, and vulnerable street users.

Larisa presented the existing cross section of Frank Blvd. and the five reveal options that were developed as part of the public process:

- English Oak – English Oak trees in center planting strip with two bus lanes
- Multi-Way Boulevard Option – Multi-way street with bike lanes, planter strip with new trees, and two bus lanes.
- Median Bikeway Option – Two bus lanes and center bike lanes.
- Edge Trees Option – New trees on roadway edge, bike lanes, and two bus lanes.
- Tree Boulevard Option – Median tree canopy with edge trees, two bus lanes, and tree options.

Larisa described roundabout designs at 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Franklin and at the East Gateway that includes the I-5 off-ramp.

Sam – He is hoping that the new design will represent Eugene as a community. The existing welcome sign can be saved and used as part of the new east gateway entrance.

Brian – Current design makes Franklin as a divider where people don't want to cross roadway. The roundabout design is better than other ones he has seen.

Amy – No crossing at duck ponds. When biking Franklin, you are on street, into campus, and then on path, all over the place.

## **7. Subcommittee Reports (7:00-7:10)**

### Information Share

Infrastructure –

- West Bank Path lighting, motion sensor light possibility – discussed angle, color, brightness, etc. Some neighborhood opposition.
- Crosswalk improvements
- Infrastructure subcommittee interested on viewing engineering documents for active transportation projects.
- SRTS projects funded.

## **8. Project Updates (7:10-7:20)**

### Information Share

Invite Lane County staff to a future meeting to talk about Beaver/Hunsaker and Maxwell/E. Park projects.

## **9. Information Share (7:20-7:30)**

### Information Share

Presenter: All

Bob Blyth - Building modular building in the back of 4J School District offices for high school building. Concerns for walking and biking access for high school students. Bike lane needs to be restriped. City needs to look at active transportation/safety when permitting building.

Kelsey – Go to [webikelane.org](http://webikelane.org) to register event for May is Bike Month. Eugene and Springfield community members are planning CycloFemme, women's bike ride on Mother's Day, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Community organized event, volunteers needed! UO is conducting site visit at safety and connectivity

LiveMove is coordinating Parking Day on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, 10:00am-2:00pm  
Sam is teaching Do It Yourself course for UO Bike Program, Mondays, first one on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-9:00 pm.

Vision Zero Action Plan is being routed for initials/signatures this week. Will be signed by the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Public Works Director and City Manager. Larisa will work with BEST to schedule celebration to share what's in the plan and what the City has done and will continue to do for implementation in the near future.

Ride of Silence is on May 15th, 2019  
Bike Friendly Business Movie Night in Springfield on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. June 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:00 breakfast to get local businesses to sign up as bike friendly businesses.

Marina was hit by a bicyclist.

Josh – Reminded committee members that attendance is important in order to have a quorum and take action. Please let Lee know in advance if you are not going to be able to attend a meeting.

## **10. Adjourn 7:30**

### **Future Agenda Topics**

- Franklin Boulevard Transformation
- Vision Zero
- Police Chief – Traffic Enforcement and Bicycle Theft
- Bicycle Parking Code Adoption - April
- Scooters/Micromobility – May
- Eugene Sunday Streets/Party in the Parks/Other Activities – April/September
- EUG 2021 and Active Transportation Coordination - August
- Walking and Biking System Gaps - August
- Shared Use Path Safety
- Speed Designation
- Citywide Priorities for Walking and Biking Projects
- MovingAhead Updates
- Pedestrian-Bicycle Pavement Bond Measure and Projects
- Temporary Pedestrian Access Routes
- Central Area In-Motion
- City Street Lighting Standards
- Transportation Demand Management Requirements

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