

Eugene Active Transportation Committee

Date: Thursday, November 12, 2020
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Location:



City of Eugene
99 E Broadway Ste 400
Eugene, Oregon 97401
(541) 682-5291
(541) 682-5032 FAX
www.eugene-or.gov/atc

Attendees: Allen Hancock, Andrea Plesnarski, Bob Blyth, Grace Kaplowitz, Josh Kashinsky, Julie Daniel, Pete Knox, Robert Dow, Steve Abbott, Daniel Wilson, Marina Herrera, Nick Alviani

Absent: None

Staff: Reed Dunbar, Shane Rhodes, Lee Shoemaker

Public: Kevin Campbell, Duncan Rhodes, Webb Sussman, Vicky Mello, Claire Roth, Cynthia Black, Branden Johnson, Mary Christensen, Robert Hendrix, Bill Randall, Charlie Loeb, Clare Haley, Cynthia Black

The November 12, 2020 Active Transportation Committee meeting will be held as a Webinar and livestreamed on Facebook.

Please join the ATC meeting remotely at:

<https://eugene-or-gov.zoom.us/j/96746094131>

Webinar ID: 967 4609 4131

Password: 2tAbNNFE

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 971 247 1195 or +1 669 219 2599 or +1 669 900 6833 or 833 548 0282
(Toll Free)

Notes

1. Open Meeting - Meeting Coordination

Shane Rhodes welcomed folks and introduced the online format.

2. Public Comment

Webb Sussman: attended several meetings ago, one item was pertaining to gaps in the sidewalk network outside of downtown. Webb lives near Westmoreland Park – sidewalks are spotty in this area. Results are that people are walking in the street. Asked ATC if some portion of the street funding could be used to fill in the gaps; and, to whom do we report these types of pedestrian issues to? Was told that someone would reach out to him with a response. That never happened. What's happening?

- City staff responded that there is no sidewalk infill program. A program needs to be developed.
- Let your Councilors know this is a priority.
- Public Works is developing a workplan and we think sidewalk infill will be prominent on that list.

- (Allen: apologized for not following up with Webb. Mentioned that the ATC Communications committee should take this on.)

Robert Hendricks (Churchill Neighbors): first question – is it ATC’s format to answer questions during public comment? (Usually, address after the meeting.) Suggestion, sidewalk infill comes up frequently in neighborhood associations, maybe Webb should check in with his neighborhood? Mentioned neighborhood matching grant program.

3. Approve October 8, 2020 Meeting Summary Notes

Action Requested: Approve Meeting Notes

Motion to approve, seconded. Passes unanimously.

4. 13th Avenue Bikeway

Action Requested: Debrief Opening and Outreach

Presenter: Reed Dunbar/Shane Rhodes

<https://www.eugene-or.gov/3742/13th-Avenue-Bikeway>

Shane showed a video about 13th Avenue that will be released soon.

Remainder of time for this agenda item will be made available for committee members to comment on their experience using the new 13th Avenue Bikeway and to address any concerns.

Comments:

- Pete rides the bus a lot on 13th Avenue. Have been 2 times that an emergency vehicle parked in the travel lane and the bus hops the curb to go around. How wide is the travel lane?
- Daniel – humans get frustrated when forced to wait, we need to get this right, what can we do in terms of messaging? Pedestrian crosswalk at Lincoln is great – want to see a thousand more.
- Julie – have the same issues as others – it’s very slow. Like the barrier. It’s just hard to travel with heavy loads when you have to stop all the time. Will probably move to another route if doesn’t start operating faster.
- Allen – agrees with Daniel that there are some dangerous intersections when non-compliance occurs because it puts people in the wrong place. Really concerned that someone will be hit and we won’t get to build any more of these. Education may not be the answer because it should be safe without learning.
- How does the video Shane shared get out in the world? It will go out through social media networks and on city website. It will go out to PeaceHealth members too. What’s viewership? We may choose to “boost” them. Can you break down into smaller bits? Yes, that’s why it’s divided into different segments.
- Steve – systems need to be intuitive, but, anytime things change, there is confusion. Hopefully, this evens out. Liked the temporary signs. Saw trouble at High Street where 2 lanes merge into 1 lane.
- Grace – it’s really snazzy! The bikeway contains a lot of information, but maybe too much to pay attention to. Hard to stop at every intersection. Saw people walking in bike lanes.

- Josh – did 6 hours of observations – didn't see too many pedestrians in the bikeway. Previously sent comments to city staff. But some of his thinking has evolved. New thought, if we focus on safety and all ages, one consequence might mean that speed suffers. Maybe that's okay? Do like the idea of education – especially on campus at the UO. Seems like younger people more likely to run red lights (but not always). This is a project that City Council needs to hear about – let them know how it's working well.
- Shane – starting to see a variety of user types now – skateboard, scooter, running, walking, etc. Want to flag that City needs to update legality of micromobility devices so that they can legally be used.
- Allen – is it possible to re-phase the signals so that bikes go first? It's first-come, first-served now, but tends to rest on green for cars. So, might be an adjustment there. Important to have predictability. (Be patient, working to update technology and waiting on federal approval to add safety messaging. Also, the tech we have is state of the art, future proofed as much as possible.)
- Andrea – any incidents of non-compliance by drivers? (no) And, wondering if metrics are being tracked. (yes, bike counts)
- Marina – drives through 13th/High a lot. As a driver leaving more time because it's slower. Like that the corridor is safer for folks with less experience – it's a good place to bring new riders. Still some issues with crosswalk compliance on 13th Avenue, but it seems to be getting better.
- Josh – did see one incident of cars not obeying – drove in bikeway to drop off a person, then backed out...traveled over a block.
- Possible to add polarized lights so you can't see car travel lanes? If you did, compliance would be higher for bikeway signals.

5. MoveEUG Strategic Plan

Presenter: Shane Rhodes

Shane has a survey ready that he would like ATC members to take. Questions will include: How do you think we did? Where do you think we fall in terms of implementation? What should we do with this action item in the future?

City will also ask partner agencies what they think of the MoveEUG plan. With everyone's input, we'll update the plan and be able to focus ATC's agendas to coincide with plan priorities.

The future is bright. There's a lot of planning happening right now, including updates to policies, strategic planning, and deciding where transportation options programming will live (since Point2Point is no longer). Your input is valuable.

6. Leaf Collection

Action Requested: Information Share

Presenter: Lee Shoemaker

<https://www.eugene-or.gov/314/Leaf-Collection-and-Delivery>

It's that time of the season. Reminder that there is a schedule for leaf collection. Don't have your leaves out early – they just end up in the stormwater system and crews need to unclog them or flooding will occur. Keep leaves on your hard as long as you can, or until leaf collection in your neighborhood is scheduled.

You can also call 682-4800 or use the iBikeEUG app to report leaves in the bike lane.

Comments:

- Dangerous conditions may result when people put leaves out too early. Please advise folks what the rules are so that we can continue to do the leaf program and have it be effective.
- Seems people are just going to put leaves out no matter what you do.
- Why don't we bag leaves like Springfield does? That is, if the bags are recyclable. Might be worth discussing.
- Do waste providers collect? Yes.
- Let's have someone from surface maintenance here soon to discuss how the program works, and why it works the way it does.
- Try enforcement instead of education? (Josh said education is more popular and sometimes more effective – at least for parking)

7. Active Transportation Committee Communication

Action Requested: Discussion

Daniel noted that it might be best to wait for new committee members to join in January. But, current thought is that there should be a way to do outreach with residents and to communicate to decision-making bodies.

Let's plan to talk more in January. Daniel will send out draft committee purpose for discussion.

Grace wants to make public involvement fun. Let's think about creative ways to get folks more involved.

8. Active Transportation Committee Recruitment Update

Action Requested: Presentation and Feedback

<https://www.eugene-or.gov/490/Active-Transportation-Committee>

Lee said there will be up to 7 vacancies. Recruitment started this week. There is an online application on the website. It also went out in the InMotion newsletter and in social media. Lee will plan to send out notice on interested parties lists. Committee members should feel free to encourage people they know to apply.

New folks start in January.

Reed asked about equity strategies. Grace mentioned that the existing application process is cumbersome and may scare some folks off. Maybe use another method?

9. Subcommittee Reports

Action Requested: Information Share

Presenter: Subcommittee

Programs – talked about Communications strategies and MoveEUG report. Shane working with them to identify effective communications programs and scoping the reach of the committee. (We'll need to decide in the new year if there is both a programs committee and a communications committee.)

Infrastructure – discussed funding (SRTS) and crossing of 4th Avenue near the DeFazio Bridge. Group liked the idea of staying on the south side of 4th Avenue instead of crossing the street in the turn radius.

- Allen mentioned that he would like to do a night ride to evaluate path lighting. Seems doable this time of year.

10. Project Updates/Information Share

Action Requested: Information Share

Presenter: All

Reed: talked about new money from the state that City will receive to build protected active transportation space on streets without sidewalks.

Shane: RFP for new bike share operator went out this week. Will review and (hopefully) contract before the end of the year. Also, testing some new tech that allows people to unlock the bikes with their phone or an RFID card.

Marina: will be leaving the committee, but plan to remain involved. Want to volunteer for activities and events, as always. May be back in the future.

Josh: question for Shane – what's the status of e-scooter pilot? (Right now, it's still potentially going to RFP in "spring".)

Steve: Webb's question about sidewalk gaps, do we have maps? (yes) Also, 30th Avenue is a hike uphill. Can Spring Blvd go through? (yes, also, there will be a 30th Avenue path study performed by Lane County in 2021.)

11. Adjourn 7:30

Future Agenda Topics

- ATC 2020 EUG Strategic Plan Work Items
- Officer Elections – December 2020
- 2045 Regional Transportation Plan
- Transit Tomorrow
- Transportation Options 2021 Events
- Bicycle Parking Code Adoption
- Difficult Intersections

- Biking-Walking System Gaps
- Scooters/Micromobility
- EUG 2021 and Active Transportation Coordination
- Shared Use Path Safety
- Tactical Urbanization
- Driver Education; Oregon Friendly Drivers; Safe Lane Coalition
- Temporary Pedestrian Access Routes
- Roundabout Strategy
- Transportation Demand Management Requirements
- Periodic Updates – Vision Zero; Moving Ahead; Bond Measure Projects;

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