

Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 13, 2018
Time: 5:30 – 7:00 PM
Location: Jack Reidy Conference Room
140 W. Pine Street
Missoula, MT 59802

Attendees: Bob Giordano (Co-chair), Emily Jensen (Co-chair), Tom Carlson (Secretary), Hans Hoffman, Tom Javins, Dan Doyle, Ike Moody, Kurt Sweeney, Pat Warner, Karen Gasvoda (City of Missoula, Office of Neighborhoods)

Next Meeting: March 13, 2018, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, Jack Reidy Conference Room, 140 W. Pine Street, Missoula, MT 59802

1. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
 - a. *A concern for speeding vehicles on Lolo Street from the bridge east to Rattlesnake Drive. Crosswalk at east end of bridge is often not noticed by drivers. Pedestrians need to cross from south side sidewalk along bridge to north side sidewalk to access bus stop at Raymond Ave. and Lolo Street. Residents have contacted city traffic services about permanent speed monitor sign (similar to Van Buren Street) but they were informed that the devices do not work to slow traffic. A traffic calming structure on Lolo Street east of the creek may be needed. Other possible solutions include a temporary speed monitoring device, enhanced speed limit enforcement, improved signing for crosswalk, or a flashing light crosswalk sign activated by users.*
 - b. *City engineering has proposed to convert the east end of Mtn. View Drive, currently closed to motor vehicles, into a street. A petition to the city to vacate the existing right-of way and cede lands to adjacent owners with a trail easement could be considered. [Note - This item should be added to the agenda for the March 13 meeting.](#)*
 - c. *The need for a sidewalk along Lincoln Hills Drive and especially near Syringa Park was identified at the February 11 Upper Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council general meeting (item #18 on the agenda).*
 - d. *According to city plans, the planned bulb-outs to be installed as part of the Van Buren Phase III project will be similar to those installed during previous Van Buren Street projects and should not impact bicycle lanes.*
2. Approval of [January 9, 2018](#) draft meeting minutes - *Approved with no changes.*
3. Approval of Agenda – *Approved with the following additional item, [to be added to subsequent meeting agendas: Identify next meeting date, place, and time, and prioritize discussion items.](#)*

*Items with * below were identified as priorities for this meeting and discussed as described.*

4. * Van Buren Phase III turn lane in relation to Missoula Ave concerns (Changed to proposed Missoula Ave. Improvements)
 - a. *Concerns for through traffic speeding on Missoula Ave. have prompted some residents to propose changing vehicle traffic pattern on Missoula Ave. from current one-way north-bound to a combination of northbound from Richard Street to Lolo Street and southbound from Richard Street to Van Buren. Two way bike/ped. lanes would remain.*

Actions:

Bob will notify council member Brian Von Lossberg of committee discussion and general support. Kurt will prepare petition and contact residents on Missoula Ave. and Richard Street.

5. * Connecting trails, Clark Fork to Recreation Area – *There is a need to explore forming a non-profit trails association to facilitate planning, funding, and implementation of various trail and quiet streets projects.*

Actions:

Tom Javins and Hans Hoffman will discuss and report to the committee on vision, purpose, need, organization, and work needed to establish organization.

6. * Bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety – Broadway/Van Buren – *MDT has made no major changes to final drafts plans previously reviewed by the committee. A Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) walk light signal has been installed to increase safety for peds./bikes crossing Broadway southbound at Van Buren. The light gives pedestrians a 3 second head start into the intersection before the light turns green for right turning vehicles.*
7. Intersection of Greenough, Spruce, Madison, 2nd Ave. / railroad tracks – *This item deleted*
8. Concerns for traffic during the 2018 summer reconstruction of Van Buren Street and the I-90 interchange
9. Transit service improvements, including snow issues at bus stops – *Note: This item should be combined with agenda item #21.*
The committee previously sent a letter to Mountain Line requesting regular snow removal from bus stops. Mountain Line did not respond in writing but during a subsequent conversation with Bob indicated that snow removal was the responsibility of the city.

Bob also contacted city street maintenance supervisor Brian Hensel about snow piled in crosswalks and bike lanes. Brian indicated that piling snow in bike lanes is sometimes necessary and done according to current city policy.

Action: *Emily will contact city council members to identify problems and potential solutions.*

10. Alvina to Lolo Street (on Greenough Drive) bike and walkways

11. * Van Buren/Front intersection safety – *The committee previously drafted a letter to city engineers and council members requesting that a stop sign be reinstalled for east bound Front Street vehicles to enhance safety for peds./bikes in crosswalk. The letter has been reviewed by both the Upper and Lower Rattlesnake neighborhood Council leadership teams. Tom J. will incorporate their comments and send the final letter.*
12. Vine/Greenough trail entry safety
13. Psyllium and sustainable paving Greenough Park
14. Pentachlorophenol safety issue on Greenough Bridge
15. Madison pedestrian bridge to Greenough Park connection
16. Improve the turnoff for northbound bikes from Van Buren onto Missoula Avenue - *Left turn lane on Van Buren will be added. The Missoula Ave. intersection will move approximately 60' south and be realigned to meet Van Buren at close to 90 degree angle.*
17. Bulbouts and bicycle safety at Rattlesnake School
18. Bicycle and pedestrian safety along Lincoln Hills Drive.
19. Lack of parking for the Syringa Park bike park and the soccer fields along Lincoln Hills Drive
20. Discussion of Long Range Transportation Plan and Bicycle Facilities Master Plan letters
21. * Winter walkway and bikeway maintenance – *This agenda item should be combined with #9.*
22. Madison Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project – *This agenda item deleted.*
23. Moving of the railway yard out of its present location
24. Need for Griz game day parking restrictions
25. Need for roundabout at the intersection of Lolo Street and Rattlesnake Drive
26. Driver confusion with the three-way stop at the Rattlesnake Drive/Lincolnwood intersection

Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator
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