

Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes - *DRAFT*

Date: November 12, 2019

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Location: Hal Fraser Conference Room

140 W Pine

Missoula, MT 59802

Note – There was no discussion of agenda items except as recorded for items 1,2, 4,5,7,8,9, and 13.

1. Introductions - *Present: Bob Giordano (Co-chair), Emily Jensen (Co-chair), Tom Carlson (Secretary), Karen Gasvoda (City Office of Neighborhoods), Ike Moody, Dan Doyle, June Siple.*
2. Approval of Agenda – *Prioritized items 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 13.*
3. Approval of [October 8, 2019](#) meeting minutes – *Minutes not discussed or approved.*
4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – *Sarah Noble (PR firm) and Bob Vosen (MDT) discussed the plans for reconstruction of the Higgins Avenue bridge scheduled to begin in early winter 2020. The bridge deck will be widened and additional multi-use pathways for pedestrians added to both the east and west side of the bridge. The existing stairway on the northeast end of the bridge will be removed and not replaced. A new stairway is being designed by the city for ADA compliant pedestrian access from the northwest side of the bridge to Caras Park. The Higgins Ave. and 3rd Street intersection will also be re-designed and reconstructed.*
5. Bringing Plans Together (this includes a proposal to update the Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study, item #14g)
 - *The public questionnaire response period closed October 31.*
 - *There were approximately 620 responses.*
 - *Karen started putting responses into a spreadsheet but has no more time to devote to this. She will send the raw data to Emily for further analysis for discussion at the December committee meeting.*
 - *Tom will review the minutes of past meetings to clarify what Ben Weiss (city Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager) said in terms of scoring responses or projects.*
6. Mountain View Drive/Woodland Drive – *make path at the west end of Mountain View a permanently pedestrian-only right-of-way or conversion to an official city “trail”*
7. Speed Study on Lolo Street
 - *Karen provided data from the Speed Statistics Per Day information gathered during the October 8 – 15, 2019 speed monitoring. Results indicate that 85% or drivers are traveling over the 25 mph speed limit but most are below 30 mph.*
 - *The response from Chad Pancake of city Traffic Services is that he will create a report but typically drivers exceeding the speed limit are aware of their actions*

and there is little Traffic Services can do except to forward the report to the Police Department for enforcement action.

- *Ike informed the committee that a new electronic speed monitoring sign has been installed on Duncan Drive north of the Lolo Street intersection. Karen will inquire of Chad Pancake as to what criteria was used to justify this sign.*

8. Van Buren Street I-90 Interchange –

- *June and Bob G. attended a recent review with MDT and city staff of problems related to winter maintenance and bicycle and pedestrian travel which resulted in a list of questions for follow-up.*
- *City Parks and Recreation has responsibility for maintaining sidewalks and multi-use pathways through the interchange.*
- *MDT is going to work with Montana Rail Link to address drainage issues from the railroad bridge.*
- *MDT will also pursue solutions for sight distance, hand rail and other issues.*
- *MDT has implemented a change to address an identified drainage problem.*

9. Van Buren Street Construction Phase III, improve the turnoff onto Missoula Avenue –

- *Karen forwarded a list of committee suggestions (see October 2019 meeting minutes) for better signage on Van Buren Street north of the Missoula Avenue intersection including relocating the 25 mph speed limit sign for southbound vehicles and adding a sign to help drivers stay in their lane.*
- *Chad Pancake says that the sign will not be relocated as the current placement is adequate per state law to slow traffic before the intersection.*
- *The city will monitor and consider additional actions in the future if needed.*

10. Missoula Ave. one-way to Lolo and one-way to Van Buren at Richard Street

11. Removing Double Yellow Center Lines on Low Volume Streets, to Decrease Speeding and Increase Safety

12. Brainstorm ways to increase awareness of this committee

13. Identify next meeting date, place and time and prioritize discussion items –

Next meeting is December 10, 2019 in the Hal Fraser Conference Room, 140 West Pine Street from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm.

14. The following items may be discussed:

- a. Connecting trails, Clark Fork to Recreation Area
- b. Bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety – Broadway/Van Buren
- c. Alvina to Lolo Street (on Greenough Drive) bike and walkways
- d. Van Buren/Front intersection safety
- e. Vine/Greenough trail entry safety
- f. Updating the Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study (see #5 above)
- g. Pentachlorophenol safety issue on Greenough Bridge
- h. Madison pedestrian bridge to Greenough Park connection
- i. Bulbouts and bicycle safety at Rattlesnake School
- j. Bicycle and pedestrian safety along Lincoln Hills.
- k. Lack of parking for the Syringa Park bike park and the soccer fields along Lincoln Hills Drive
- l. Winter walkway and bikeway maintenance, and transit service improvements, including snow issues at bus stops
- m. Moving of the railway yard out of its present location

- n. Need for Griz game day parking restrictions
- o. Need for roundabout at the intersection of Lolo Street and Rattlesnake Drive
- p. Driver confusion with the three-way stop at the Rattlesnake Drive/Lincolnwood intersection

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