



Missoula Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board Minutes

January 7, 2020, 3:00 PM
City Council Chambers
140 W. Pine Street, Missoula , MT

Voting members present: Cory Simenson (Chair), Britt Arnesen, Jenny Baker (Vice-chair), Ryan Bundy, Jessica Dougherty Goodburn, Terri Roberts, Chris Siller, Jessica Tuberty, James Walter

1. Call to Order

(Cory Simenson) called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call & Introductions

The board members announced their names and gave brief personal introductions.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

4. Approval of Current Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Comments from City Staff, Agencies, Boards, etc.

There were no staff comments.

6.1 Bicycle & Pedestrian Program: Ben Weiss

Ben Weiss, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, gave a brief personal introduction for the new members of the board and provided an update on upcoming plans and projects in the transportation division including:

- The BUILD grant funding the Mullan Road project
- South Avenue
- Highway 200 Corridor redevelopment
- The Long Range Transportation Plan Update
- Russell Street construction

- Opportunities for public engagement
- Montana Department of Transportation's resurfacing 5th and 6th Street

The board asked about the comments that were received by the city regarding the 5th and 6th street restriping and briefly discussed the options of separated bike lanes, rumble strips, and more defined signage. They also recommended the city consider intersection visibility, curb painting, lane width guidelines, and successful bicycle facilities in other cities.

Eugene Schmitz provided a public comment regarding his personal experience to the 5th and 6th street restriping. He believes that delineators that separate vehicular and bicycle traffic would improve safety and comfort for bicyclists.

The board discussed snow removal and plowing options for bike lanes.

7. New Business

7.1 Reading of the Proposed Bylaw Amendments

Corey Simenson, BPAB chair, presented the bylaws to the board and opened a discussion on agendas, meeting attendance, and general procedures. The board took a few minutes to review the bylaws and asked for clarification on the verbiage used.

7.2 Question and Answer Session for New Board Members

Ben Weiss, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, presented clarification and further information to the board regarding:

- The City of Missoula's Complete Streets policy
- Neighborhood greenways
- The role of the board
- Potential opportunities for involvement
- Federal funding sources and investment prioritization

The board presented their comments and concerns about:

- The safety of pedestrians downtown during the Saturday Market and cyclists riding on Pattee Street
- The option of extended pedestrian signals
- Experimenting with additional painting in intersections

A discussion was opened on how to make recommendations. The board proposed drafting a letter of recommendation to experiment with a scramble intersection downtown.

The board decided to have a reoccurring safety discussion item added onto the all Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board agendas.

Aaron Wilson, Transportation Planning Manager, joined the discussion and spoke to the board about the Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan along with the City's future goals for replacing the over two-hundred miles of missing sidewalks. (The Pedestrian Facilities map is attached in eScribe).

Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan

Aaron Wilson, Transportation Planning Manager, joined the discussion and spoke to the board about the Pedestrian Facilities Master Plan along with the City's future goals for replacing the over two-hundred miles of missing sidewalks. (The Pedestrian Facilities map is attached in eScribe).

8. Old Business

8.1 ROW Subcommittee Update

James Walter, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board Right of Way Subcommittee Chair, gave a brief update on their recent meetings, project interests, scope of mission, and future plans. The subcommittee has a goal to coordinate with the city and neighborhood committees and present presentation models to leadership committees.

The board opened a discussion about one of the subcommittee's areas of focus, the Slant Street Gateway; looking at maps of the property, reviewing the history, and deliberating over the right of way options available for the park.

8.2 California Street Update

Britt Arnesen, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board member, addressed her concern for bicycle and pedestrian safety on California Street. Resurfacing was done in the summer of 2019 without any improvements being made to bicycle and pedestrian facilities. She believes that it was an oversight of the City of Missoula's Complete Streets policy. (The City of Missoula's Complete Street's Policy is attached in eScribe).

Ben Weiss, Bicycle and Pedestrian Office Manager, spoke to the board about the Complete Streets Policy, the City's systemic issue of resurfacing streets, and the funding constraints associated with street improvements.

The board discussed other safety options including rapid flashing beacons and the advantages they could have for hearing and visually impaired citizens.

9. General Comments and Announcements

There were no general comments or announcements from the board.

10. Upcoming Meetings

The next Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2020, at 3:00 pm in Missoula City Council Chambers.

11. Adjournment

Cory Simenson adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.