



Missoula Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board Minutes

August 4, 2020, 3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting: Live Stream and On Demand: <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/webcasts>

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5fnfMPFGSk8Gwq6F5UoqGg>

Live call in phone numbers: 1 (253) 215-8782 1 (888) 475-4499 (landlines only) Meeting ID: 960 049 3694

Voting members present: Cory Simenson (Chair), Jessica Dougherty Goodburn, Jessica Tuberty (Vice Chair), James Walter, Gene Schmitz

Regular member(s) absent: Britt Arnesen, Ryan Bundy, Chris Siller

1. Call to Order

Cory Simenson called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

4. General Public Comments

There was no public comment.

5. General Board Member Comments

James Walter arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Eugene Schmitz commented on the Milwaukee Trail concerns at the intersection with Davis St due to required turning movements creating conflicts between east and west bound bicyclists. He suggested moving the current sign back 10-12 feet as the sign pushes cyclist to the wrong side. Ben Weiss, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, stated they are reviewing that intersection already due to safety concerns and looking to address all issues at that intersection.

Mr. Schmitz also mentioned his concern on the traffic circle by Maurice and wanted a better idea on the possibility of that shifting the traffic load and if so what the city plans to do as a result. Mr. Weiss stated the city has discussed the shifting of traffic and found that a majority of traffic comes from South Avenue to the University area traveling north to south at a two to one ratio versus the traffic coming from the south to north.

Jessica Tuberty commented on the California Street trail crossing and felt the trail is more cohesive and safe with the new stripping and signage. She also noted that people use Maurice all the time and is glad to see work being done on traffic calming. Mr. Weiss added that he has noticed the vegetation concerns at Milwaukee Trail/California St and asked Parks Staff to trim down and the trail now has much better site lines. Additionally, the California/Wyoming intersection has been enhanced and the city plans to do counts in the upcoming months to gather more accurate data of the trail use.

6. Comments from City Staff

There were no staff comments.

6.1 Bicycle & Pedestrian Program: Ben Weiss

There was no staff comments from the Bicycle and Pedestrian manager.

7. Committee Reports

8. Old Business

8.1 CIP Project Prioritization (Ben Weiss)

Ben Weiss, Bicycle and Pedestrian Office, informed the board that the city is in the process of re-branding the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP is keeping the acronym but changing the title to "Community Investment Program" to better reflect the values of not just the city but the community itself. Mr. Weiss continued with a presentation that explained the goal of the CIP is to strengthen relationships with the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), other planning documents and make the process more transparent. The new CIP uses a data driven process to advance other policies, better align funding with goals, and create a results-based process to increase transparency, efficiency and productivity. The new project list combines transportation projects into one list and includes: the sidewalk program, facility plan priorities, FY20 CIP, MRA, and more. The list will identify projects, provides project descriptions to weigh the benefits and costs, and gathers background information to help score the project. The criteria for each project includes: plan conformity, connectivity, access, safety, equity, readiness and leverage with extra weight on safety and equity, per council direction. Mr. Weiss went over each criteria and gave some background on what goes into each item. He also noted that the project list currently has 78 worthy projects which equals ~\$125,000,000 in investments with multiple project types serving all modes of travel.

Mr. Weiss shared the high scorers and top ten projects which include: the Westside Area, Higgins, California, Kent/Central, Burton, Broadway/Cooper, Eaton, South Avenue, the BUILD Grant and Turner/Worden/North 5th. He explained that the project list will not necessarily be completed in order from top to bottom, but rather allows flexibility so the City can respond to things like private developments and grant availability to ensure they get the most out of the projects. Mr. Weiss highlighted the Westside Area project which combines multiple small projects including sidewalk repair and replacement, bike lanes on Spruce, safety enhancements, angled parking and parking lot configuration. He also highlighted the Higgins Street project between Broadway and Brooks and the Kent/Central Greenway.

The next steps will be to identify funding sources over the next 5 years and look for opportunities with overlapping projects. Mr. Weiss asked the board for suggestions and

ideas on projects that may need prioritized or projects that could be pushed to the back of the list. Board members asked for clarification on the scoring rubric used. Mr. Weiss clarified and added that there are some projects that are queued up that do not have high scores but are moving forward for a variety of reasons. The board touched on projects they are in support of and offered suggestions to remedy certain project areas related to safety and community connections.

Moved by: Jessica Tuberty (Vice Chair)

Seconded by: Gene Schmitz

Recommended motion: For Jessica Tuberty to draft a letter of recommendation to council concerning projects listed on the CIP list, including support for Higgins, Kent/Central Greenway, smaller projects in multiple neighborhoods, and combining projects in the Franklin to the Fort area similar to the Westside Area Project.

AYES: (5): Cory Simenson, Jessica Dougherty Goodburn, Jessica Tuberty (Vice Chair), James Walter, and Gene Schmitz

ABSENT: (3): Britt Arnesen, Ryan Bundy, and Chris Siller

Vote results: Approved (5 to 0)

9. New Business

9.1 Local Street Speed Limits

Ben Weiss, Bicycle and Pedestrian Office, gave a brief update letting the board know an intern was hired for the summer to help with the research on reducing speed limits in residential areas. Both the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Office shared the cost to hire the intern. Her name is Madison and she will be presenting in September or October on what was found through research.

9.2 BPAB Annual Priorities

10. Announcements

Ben Weiss, Bicycle and Pedestrian Office, thanked the board for their input and stated that over time their feedback will help with the development of the projects discussed.

11. Next Meeting: September 1, 2020 at 3pm (Virtual Zoom Meeting)

Next meeting will be September 1, 2020 at 3pm (Virtual Zoom meeting)

12. Adjournment

Cory Simenson adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.