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Transportation Technical Advisory Committee TTAC Minutes

November 5, 2020, 10:00 AM
ZOOM Webinar

Voting members present: Shane Stack (Msla Co PW), Sarah Coefield, Chair (Env. Health MCCHD), Corey Aldridge (MUTD), Dori Brownlow (Missoula County), Jacquelyn Smith (MDT-Missoula), Chet Crowser (Msla Co CAPS), Juniper Davis (Msla Co Parks & Trails), Donna Gaukler (City Parks & Rec), Lyn Hellegaard, (MRTMA), Jeremy Keene, vice-chair (Director Pubic Works), Ben Weiss (City Bike/Ped)

Voting member(s) absent: Ellen Buchanan (MRA), Don Verrue (City Development Services -interim), Katie Potts (MDT-Helena)

Non-Voter(s) present: Ryan Hammon (FHWA-Helena)

Non-Voter(s) absent: Tiffany Brander (City Parking), Brian Ellestad (Msla Airport Auth), Bynum Jackson (ASUM-Trans.), Eva Rocke (UM Admin)

1. Roll Call

The meeting started at 10:03 AM.

Karen Hughes sat as proxy for Chet Crowser, Vicky Crnich sat as proxy for Katie Potts, Neil Miner sat as proxy for Donna Gaukler, Ben Schmidt as proxy for Sarah Coefield

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. New Business

4.1 Review and approval of Amendment #5 to the 2016 Long Range Transportation Plan (Jon Sand)

Jon Sand, transportation planner for the Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization, presented a review of Amendment number 5 to the 2016 Long Range Transportation Plan. For details please find the documents available online. The amendment is regarding the intersection between Mary Jane Boulevard and Broadway. Funding for the project will be provided through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP).

Montana Department of Transportation (MDT), Missoula City, and Missoula County are collaborating to complete the project. The scope of the project includes installation of a signal on Broadway and Mary Jane Lane as well as reconfiguration of the existing intersection at Broadway and Flynn Lane to limit access to right-in right-out.

Jeremy Keene explained why the decision was made to move forward with a traffic signal as opposed to a roundabout. A roundabout would provide better safety but there was not enough money to build it. Therefore, to control the intersection, the current feasible option is a signal, which is anticipated to operate safely and efficiently. Aaron Wilson added that another important deciding factor to consider is time sensitivity to have this project completed before the VA opens next fall.

Moved by: Dori Brownlow

Seconded by: Chet Crowser

Approve Amendment#5 to the 2016 LRTP as proposed

Vote results: Approved

4.2 Review and approval of Amendment #2 to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (Jon Sand)

Jon Sand, transportation planner for the Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization, presented on Amendment Number 2 to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program. For details please find documents available online. The amendment is for the above mentioned project: to complete a signal project at the intersection of Mary Jane and Broadway. The amendment number two is to include the project in the 2020-2024 TIP table as proposed.

Moved by: Katie Potts (MDT-Helena)

Seconded by: Ellen Buchanan

Approve Amendment#5 to the transportation Improvement Program as proposed

Vote results: Approved

4.3 Presentation and review of DRAFT preferred alternative for the East Missoula/Hwy 200 Corridor Plan (Aaron Wilson/Kate Dinsmore, WGM)

Aaron Wilson, Infrastructure and Mobility Planning Manager, and Kate Dinsmore, landscape architect for WGM Group Inc., presented a review of draft preferred alternative for the East Missoula/ Hwy 200 Corridor Plan. For details please find the presentation online. Mr. Wilson noted that the Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has been working on this project for about a year. They are in the process of putting together a Preferred Design Alternative. The Design Alternative is available online for public comment and has gotten positive feedback.

The project is located on East Missoula from Van Buren Street to Tamarack Road. The Corridor Plan will address Highway 200 East Missoula in three segments: East Missoula Segment, East Broadway Segment, and ShaRon-Marshall Segment.

Ms. Dinsmore explained that on East Broadway Segment a decision will be made between a river front path and a shared use path at a later date. For now, the river front path seems to be the better option.

Ms. Dinsmore explained that the Mount Jumbo shared-use path had a feasibility issue and did not make it to the Preferred Alternative Design.

4.4 Presentation on the 2020 Pavement Condition Assessment survey and report (David Gray/Aaron Wilson)

Aaron Wilson, Infrastructure and Mobility Planning Manager, and David Gray, transportation planner for the Missoula Missoula Metropolitan Planning Organization, gave a presentation on the 2020 Pavement Condition Assessment Survey and report. Mr. Wilson mentioned that the MPO funded this study partnering with the City of Missoula and Missoula County to provide data that provides the basis for a pavement management assessment throughout the City and the County. The data can be used in future planning and budgeting.

Mr. Wilson explained that the projections might be overestimating the budget for deterioration based on a lack of consistent local data. At this point, it is a baseline to build on in the future as we continue to collect pavement condition every 4 to 5 years. As that data is collected and analyzed, better modeling can be completed using local trends.

5. Old Business

Nothing to report

6. Announcements and Closing Comments

Aaron Wilson made an announcement that Transportation hired a planner who will be introduced to the board in December 2020. He added that Missoula City has been going through a realignment and as a result, Missoula Metropolitan Planning staff and the rest of the transportation planning division will be joining the new department called Infrastructure and Mobility Division in Public Works.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 AM.