

# Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Date: May 9, 2017  
Time: 5:30 – 7:00 PM  
Location: Rattlesnake Market & Café  
2501 Rattlesnake Dr.  
Missoula, MT 59802

Attendees: Bob Giordano (Co-chair), Emily Jensen (Co-chair), Tom Carlson (Secretary), Jane Kelly (City of Missoula), Melinda Gaudry, Anne Iverson, Eric Edlund, Tom Javins, John Adams, Fred Rice, Cathy Stewart

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1. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: The following issues were identified from discussions at the recent meetings of both the Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council:
  - Need for Griz game day parking restrictions
  - Need for a roundabout at the intersection of Lolo Street and Rattlesnake Drive
  - Lack of parking for the new Syringa Park bike park and the soccer fields along Lincoln Hills Drive.
  - Driver confusion with the three-way stop at the Rattlesnake Drive/Lincolnwood intersection
  - Concerns for traffic during the 2018 summer reconstruction of Van Buren Street and the I-90 interchange.

Jane agreed to add these items to the inventory of neighborhood issues.

2. Approval of Minutes of [March 18, 2017](#): The minutes were approved
3. Approval of Agenda: The committee reviewed the agenda and identified priority discussion items (marked with \*) for this meeting.
4. \* Van Buren roundabouts safety and landscaping: The committee reviewed the proposed design, which is similar to the I-90/Orange street interchange currently under construction. Several concerns for pedestrian and bicyclist safety were identified including: the 8' wide multi-use path east of the roundabouts is too narrow for the volume of use, the angle of the curves leading to and from the I-90 entrance and exit ramps may encourage higher speeds through the crosswalk areas, the double exits from the south roundabout to the eastbound I-90 ramp discourages bicycle traffic on Van Buren Street and creates a higher risk at the crosswalks for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The committee decided to set up a meeting with Shane Stack of MDT that would include city council members to discuss these and other concerns and present possible solutions. Bob, Emily, Fred, Eric, and Tom C. expressed interest in attending the meeting. Tom C. will contact Shane Stack of MDT and Bob will coordinate with Brian Von Lossberg and Heidi West (Missoula City Council) to schedule the meeting.

5. Discuss ways to communicate and share information effectively between Committee members: Use of the city listserv to share committee information was identified.
6. \* Connecting trails – Clark Fork to Recreation Area: The committee identified missing links in the trail system and agreed to work on the following: Greenough Park to Missoula Ave. (Emily), Missoula Ave. via Wylie Street to Tom Green Park (Bob), public trail through the Rattlesnake Greenway (Tom C.), trail along Upper Rattlesnake Drive (north of the Lincolnwood intersection) (Tom J.). Identification of existing easements, rights-of way, and possible funding is needed. Fred will contact Missoula Parks and Recreation to set up a meeting for the sub-group.

7. Transit service (Mountain Line) improvements, including snow issues at bus stops: The committee discussed the current Mountain Line Strategic Plan process and the public survey that is now being conducted. The survey is general in scope and does not allow identification of specific route expansion or service needs. Emily will prepare a letter from the committee to identify the need for service on the west side of Rattlesnake Creek and identify possible options (i.e. small bus service, less frequent service, etc.) as well as snow issues at bus stops and Sunday service.
8. I-90 sound wall: not discussed
9. Alvina to Lolo Street (on Greenough Drive) bike and walkways: not discussed
10. Missoula Avenue, Monroe Street, and Duncan Drive speeding and safety: The committee shared information on how to report speeding drivers. Reports can be made to the Missoula Police Department by calling 532-6300 or by e-mail.
11. Deer on Greenough Drive: not discussed
12. Van Buren/Front intersection safety: not discussed
13. Vine/Greenough trail entry safety: not discussed
14. Psyllium and sustainable paving Greenough Park: not discussed
15. Pentachlorophenol safety issue on Greenough Bridge: not discussed
16. Madison pedestrian bridge to Greenough Park connection: not discussed
17. \* Improve the turnoff for northbound bicyclists from Van Buren onto Missoula Avenue: The committee identified concerns related to bicycle and pedestrian use of this intersection and the plans for reconstruction scheduled for 2018. The current plans may include a left turn pocket for north bound travel but there may also be opportunities for an expanded width multi-use path and/or rollover curb along the west side of Van Buren from Holly Street to Missoula Ave. as well as relocating the 25 mph speed limit and speed warning sign further north along Van Buren Street to help slow southbound vehicles on Van Buren Street.

Further discussion is needed at the June committee meeting after gathering input from Missoula Parks and Recreation. The committee would like to review design plans and options at a fall meeting.
18. Bulbouts and bicycle safety at Rattlesnake School: no discussion
19. \* Bicycle and pedestrian safety along Lincoln Hills: no discussion
20. \* Discussion of Long Range Transportation Plan and Bicycle Facilities Master Plan letters: no discussion
21. Winter walkway and bikeway maintenance: no discussion
22. \* Madison Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project: no discussion
23. Moving of the railway yard out of its present location: no discussion