

Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 13, 2018

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Location: Jack Reidy Conference Room
140 W Pine
Missoula, MT 59802

1. Introductions: *Bob Giordano (co-chair), Emily Jensen (co-chair), Tom Carlson (secretary), Karen Gasvoda (Office of Neighborhoods), Brian von Lossberg (city council member), Ben Weiss (Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Mgr.), Aaron Wilson (Transportation Planning Division Manager), Fred Rice, Ike Moody, Judy Stack.*
2. Bringing Plans Together (this includes a proposal to update the Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study, item #14g) –Aaron Wilson (confirmed) and Ben Weiss (invited): *The discussion centered around the need and process to update existing city plans to address issues and concerns for the Rattlesnake neighborhoods.*

Aaron –

- *Capacity for city planning staff limited. He consulted with Lavelle Means (head of long range planning) who would not facilitate a process and stated that any needs in the Rattlesnake neighborhood would be weighed against other priorities in the city to achieve regional goals. The Rattlesnake neighborhood plan could be added to the list to be updated, a process set to begin in 2019.*
- *The city has a variety of plans (i.e. infrastructure, growth, transportation, etc.) and a list of short and long range projects/needs ranked for priority and funding and local neighborhood plans help feed the list.*
- *Transportation planning looks at city-wide connectivity as one goal.*
- *Development Services could not do a new plan for the Rattlesnake neighborhood but could possibly assist in the process.*
- *There is uncertainty as to how the various plans fit with local neighborhood plans.*

Ben –

- *The 2011 Rattlesnake plan has guided projects but the priorities may be different now.*
- *The city has no resources to update local plans but needs to be involved to insure integrity of public involvement, etc.*
- *Willing to lead design process on Lolo Street to Alvina Street along Greenough Drive which is already listed in long range plan.*
- *It's possible to add projects already identified in other city plans to the Rattlesnake neighborhood plan. Adding new projects not previously identified is much harder.*

Brian –

- *It's a good idea to update local neighborhood plan.*
- *Process should include a review of the Rattlesnake neighborhood and other city plans to identify what's been done, what's left to do, what's working or not, and what is missing or needs to be added.*

Bob –

- *Wants to consult with others who were involved in the preparation of the 2011 Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study*

Tom will update the December 2017 table that identifies projects listed in existing plans and add projects from the city CIP list for integration into relevant city planning processes. The table will then be reviewed by the committee in consultation with council members Brian von Lossberg and Heidi West. Plans to be reviewed include the following:

- 2011 Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study
- 2011 Missoula Active Transportation Plan
- 2017 Activate Missoula 2045 – Long Range Transportation Plan
- 2017 Bicycle Facilities Master Plan
- City CIP project list (current)

3. Van Buren Street Soil Wall – Katherine Auge: *No discussion*
4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: *None*
5. Approval of October 9th 2018 meeting minutes: *Approved with changes. The Secretary will revise and re-submit as final.*
6. Approval of Agenda: *approved with identification of item #2 as priority.*
7. 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”:
Ben - Kevin Slovarp (city engineer) believes that the portion of Mtn. View Drive currently used as a bike/ped. trail could be designed and constructed to accommodate vehicle travel from new development at the north end of Woodland Ave. and that this approach would be preferable to additional traffic and possible speeding on Woodland Ave.
8. Speed Study on Lolo Street: *Traffic monitoring includes both vehicle counts and speed data.*
9. Van Buren Street Interchange : *no discussion*
10. Van Buren Street Construction Phase III, improve the turnoff onto Missoula Avenue:
Ben – The Phase III project ended at Missoula Ave. The original pavement striping caused southbound vehicles to compromise new northbound left turn refuge. Previously existing fog line striping for southbound travel (which served as an informal bike lane) was eliminated north of the intersection and Sharrows were added. The resulting condition causes bicyclists and vehicles to have to share the lane around a downhill curve.
The Van Buren Phase IV project could address this concern in 2019 or 2020. Ben will discuss possible signing options to warn bicyclists and drivers of congested area with Traffic Services.
Another possibility is to reduce the speed for this section of roadway by moving the 25mph speed limit one block north. Brian will investigate options including a speed study.
11. Missoula Ave. one-way to Lolo and one-way to Van Buren at Richard Street: *No consensus on issues or possible traffic changes yet.*
Ben: One possible solution is to construct a shared use path on the west side of Missoula Ave., separated from roadway. Vehicle roadway would need to shift east onto current shoulder but reconstruction would be needed.
12. Removing Double Yellow Center Lines on Low Volume Streets, to Decrease Speeding and Increase Safety: *no discussion*

13. Brainstorm ways to increase awareness of this committee: *no discussion*

14. Identify next meeting date, place and time and prioritize discussion items:

December 11, 2018, 5:30 – 7:00 pm in the Jack Reidy Conference Room, 140 West Pine Street.

15. The following items may be discussed: : *no discussion*

- a. Connecting trails, Clark Fork to Recreation Area
- b. Bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety – Broadway/Van Buren
- c. Concerns for traffic during the 2018 summer reconstruction of Van Buren Street and the I-90 interchange
- d. Alvina to Lolo Street (on Greenough Drive) bike and walkways
- e. Van Buren/Front intersection safety
- f. Vine/Greenough trail entry safety
- g. Updating the Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study (*see item #2 above*)
- h. Psyllium and sustainable paving Greenough Park
- i. Pentachlorophenol safety issue on Greenough Bridge
- j. Madison pedestrian bridge to Greenough Park connection
- k. Bulbouts and bicycle safety at Rattlesnake School
- l. Bicycle and pedestrian safety along Lincoln Hills.
- m. Lack of parking for the Syringa Park bike park and the soccer fields along Lincoln Hills Drive
- n. Winter walkway and bikeway maintenance, and transit service improvements, including snow issues at bus stops
- o. Moving of the railway yard out of its present location
- p. Need for Griz game day parking restrictions
- q. Need for roundabout at the intersection of Lolo Street and Rattlesnake Drive
- r. Driver confusion with the three-way stop at the Rattlesnake Drive/Lincolnwood intersection

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