

Rattlesnake Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2024 5pm

Missoula Public Library- Blackfoot Room

1. Committee Function, Mission, Purpose

-read aloud, so we are on the same page as far as purpose of meeting

2. Introductions

-Bob Giordano (chair), Fred Rice, Dan Doyle, Kurt Henderson, Eric Melson (Ward 1 rep), Arthur Endsley, Jeani Adams

3. Public Comment

the following topics were talked about during public comment: bears in the rattlesnake in general, fast drivers being a hazard to bears, dark skies being important to the neighborhood, the city website being a resource to report hazards in the street, bike lanes, sidewalks and trails

4. Approve minutes from June 11, 2024 (approved at later date)

5. Update and action on transportation safety for Lower Lincoln Hills Drive.

-the committee continued to discuss hazards on Lower Lincoln Hills Drive, such as lack of safe walk and bikeways, parking on the shoulder, pedestrian crossing issues, and increasing traffic due to growth, the bike park and sports fields. The committee will continue to pressure local officials to make safety improvements.

6. Discussion and action on safety at Van Buren Roundabouts, with a focus on the lack of yielding at the blinking light for the eastbound I-90 on ramp.

-many in the group have experienced danger due to some drivers going too fast on some of the roundabout exits, including the eastbound on ramp onto I-90; short merges onto the interstate seem to cause some drivers to go too fast which degrades safety for everyone. The committee plans to write a letter to the City and the State to ask for safety improvements. This agenda item will be revisited in early 2025.

7. Needed parks and trails in the Rattlesnake Valley, to be advocated for in the City parks and trails master planning process.

-Bob agreed to send the Rattlesnake Transportation Plan to the planners involved in the PROST process.

8. Submitting the Rattlesnake Transportation Plan as part of the Growth Policy update and the Long Range Transportation Plan update.

-Bob agreed to submit the Rattlesnake Transportation Plan to the planners involved in both the growth policy update and the long range transportation plan update.



9. Dangerous speeding and racing on the streets.

-it was discussed that we need better and safer street design, connected walkways and bikeways, and more education and enforcement about safe driving practices. The committee plans to continue this conversation.

10. Public comment

-Neighborways, as a method for increasing safety and access for walkers and bikers, were brought to the attention of the committee, by Arthur Endsley. Arthur is working with the Neighborways group and also Common Good Missoula, to implement neighborways.

11. Next meeting day and time- December 3rd, 2024, 6:15pm to 7:30pm, Cooper Space B, 4th floor of the public library.

12. Adjourn

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Rattlesnake Transportation Committee – Mission and Purpose:

The Rattlesnake Transportation Committee is a subcommittee of the Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Councils. Members of the committee are residents of the neighborhood who volunteer their time to gather monthly (September – June) in public meetings to promote safe, efficient, equitable and accessible transportation options for residents and visitors of the Rattlesnake Valley. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings and participate to discuss issues and identify potential solutions to be considered by the neighborhood, the City of Missoula, Missoula County and others as appropriate. The committee can be contacted at: rattlesnaketransportationplan@gmail.com

Rattlesnake Transportation Plan:

In 2019 the committee began work to update the 2011 Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study. Working alongside the Missoula City Office of Neighborhoods, a process was put in place to gather input and feedback from residents of the adjoining upper and lower Rattlesnake neighborhoods and to identify priority issues and potential solutions. In November of 2021 the Rattlesnake Transportation Plan Update was completed and it can be found here: <https://rattlesnaketransportation.org/d> here: <https://rattlesnaketransportation.org/>

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