

Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 8, 2019

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Location:

Hal Fraser Conference Room

140 W. Pine

Missoula, MT 59802

1. Introductions: *Attending: Bob Giordano (Co-chair), Tom Carlson (Secretary), Karen Gasvoda, (City Office of Neighborhoods), Dan Doyle, Fred Rice, Katherine Beckley, Kim Hunter, June Siple*
2. Approval of Agenda: *Prioritized items: 5,7,8,9,13 for discussion. Other agenda items were not discussed unless noted below.*
3. Approval of [September 10, 2019](#) meeting minutes: *Approved with no changes.*
4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: *Concerns for vehicle speeding on Lolo Street and pedestrian safety on the sidewalks through the Van Buren/I-90 roundabouts (see discussion notes below).*
5. Bringing Plans Together (this includes a proposal to update the Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study, item #14g):
 - *Public questionnaire is open until Oct. 31.*
 - *To date 129 questionnaires have been returned yielding 580 responses.*
 - *Karen produced posters and handout cards to help encourage participation.*
 - *All action items designed to encourage awareness and responses to the questionnaire, as identified at the September 10 meeting, have been accomplished except for posting at Rattlesnake Elementary School and the Missoula International School (Tom will do).*
 - *In addition, Bob will soon post the questionnaire on the Missoula Community News listserv.*
 - *The committee will look at data compilation and analysis needs during the November meeting.*
6. 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”
7. Speed Study on Lolo Street:
 - *The city recently deployed a two cable speed monitoring device, first noticed by a committee member on October 7. Karen will check with Chad about the length of the monitoring and when results will be available.*
 - *Katherine and Kim have observed many examples of vehicle speeding, including across the narrow bridge which has a pedestrian path on one side, Sharrows for bicyclists, and a 15 mph advisory speed.*
 - *Results of the speed study could result in the committee recommending actions such as deleting yellow center striping, permanent electronic speed monitoring sign, enhanced enforcement, traffic calming, or a further reduced speed limit.*
8. Van Buren Street Interchange:

- *Jean recounted her fall last winter, which caused serious injury, and stated that others have fallen also due to ice build-up caused by poor drainage and lack of maintenance.*
 - *Jean met with MDT and city engineers. MDT is responsible for fixing problems caused by design or construction, city does maintenance.*
 - *Jean will write a letter to The Missoulian editor and pass along a copy to Karen.*
 - *Karen will follow-up with city Parks and Recreation to get information on planned maintenance and snow removal for the coming winter.*
 - *The committee could consider actions such as getting the city council representatives involved, encouraging an engineering review conducted by an outside organization, and suggesting that the interchange be added to the list of streets and intersections where the city removed snow berms.*
9. Van Buren Street Construction Phase III, improve the turnoff onto Missoula Avenue:
- *The committee continues to have a concern about the as-built design which requires southbound vehicles to jog right and then left and how this will work during the winter and during periods when the pavement striping is not visible.*
 - *Dan suggested the following improvements to enhance safety and provided attachments in a recent e-mail to identify locations:*
 - *The new 25 mph speed limit sign for southbound vehicles should be relocated to a location across from the northbound 30 mph sign.*
 - *The '25 mph Ahead' sign should be relocated to the post that currently has a wildlife crossing sign.*
 - *A new 'Keep Right with an arrow' sign (or something similar) should be located where the new southbound 25 mph sign is now.*
 - *Karen will forward Dan's e-mail to Chad Pancake (city Traffic Services) for a response.*
 - *The committee will monitor the situation but may also consider other suggestions such as rumble strips or flexible posts to help keep vehicles in their lanes.*
10. Missoula Ave. one-way to Lolo and one-way to Van Buren at Richard Street
11. Removing Double Yellow Center Lines on Low Volume Streets, to Decrease Speeding and Increase Safety
12. Brainstorm ways to increase awareness of this committee
13. Identify next meeting date, place and time and prioritize discussion items:
- Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm, in the Hal Fraser Conference room, 140 W. Pine Street.*
14. The following items may be discussed:
- a. Connecting trails, Clark Fork to Recreation Area
 - b. Bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety – Broadway/Van Buren
 - c. Alvina to Lolo Street (on Greenough Drive) bike and walkways:
 - *Ben Weiss (city Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager has postponed the design exercise until spring of 2020.*
 - d. Van Buren/Front intersection safety
 - e. Vine/Greenough trail entry safety:
 - *A suggestion was made to review possible changes to the trail entrance off of Vine Street and Greenough Drive.*
 - *The committee will re-visit this during the November meeting.*
 - f. Updating the Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study (see item #5).

- g. Pentachlorophenol safety issue on Greenough Bridge
- h. Madison pedestrian bridge to Greenough Park connection
- i. Bulbouts and bicycle safety at Rattlesnake School
- j. Bicycle and pedestrian safety along Lincoln Hills.
- k. Lack of parking for the Syringa Park bike park and the soccer fields along Lincoln Hills Drive
- l. Winter walkway and bikeway maintenance, and transit service improvements, including snow issues at bus stops
- m. Moving of the railway yard out of its present location
- n. Need for Griz game day parking restrictions
- o. Need for roundabout at the intersection of Lolo Street and Rattlesnake Drive
- p. Driver confusion with the three-way stop at the Rattlesnake Drive/Lincolnwood intersection

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