

Upper/Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2021

5:30 – 6:30 pm

Greenough Park Shelter

Introductions (participants): Bob Giordano (Co-chair), Tom Carlson (Secretary), Dan Doyle, Eric Edlund)

Approve meeting minutes for June, 2021 - Approved

Public Comment on Non-agenda Items: The city has recently made several changes to Rattlesnake Drive near Rattlesnake Elementary School. The former bump-outs have been removed and replaced with painted and signed crosswalks with an electronic pedestrian activated flashing light at the Mountain View intersection. The committee continues to recognize and strongly support the need for safe pedestrian crossings at this location.

Posting the draft Rattlesnake Transportation plan and promoting the need for public comments

The committee reiterated the need to make the draft transportation plan available on-line for public review and comment. The committee agreed with a proposal to create a website where the plan can be posted and comments received. (The website may also serve as a platform for posting information and updating projects in the future.)

Eric has expertise in website development and has managed the Rattlesnake Watershed Group website (<https://rattlesnakecreekwatershedgroup.org/>). He volunteered to prepare a draft website for committee review and then create the actual website on line using Word Press.

The committee identified key elements that should be included in the development process for the website:

- Establish a domain name (e.g. RattlesnakeTransportation.org). The domain name "<https://www.rattlesnaketransportation.org/>" should work but the initial site will be rattlesnaketransportation.wordpress.com. That won't be circulated until there is content posted. - Eric
- Create a banner with image and introduction/purpose statement (could be modified from text currently in the draft plan). - Bob to provide text
- Establish the ability to post the draft plan as a PDF with table of contents for easy review as well as in HTML format for downloading. – Eric
- Include a comment button and form to receive public comments on the draft plan that is accessible by the committee for review and analysis. – Eric

Milestones:

- Prepare draft website by August 17 for review by Bob. – Eric/Bob)
- Allow committee review of draft via Zoom meeting August 24, 5:30 pm – All
- Finalize website, including domain name – Eric
- Provide two weeks for neighborhood council leadership teams to comment – TBD
- Finalize poster soliciting plan comments by adding website URL and copy - Tom
- Post draft plan on website for public comment – Eric
 - Note – The posting should include a brief statement acknowledging that several neighborhood projects have been completed since the draft plan was finalized in early June (i.e. Missoula Ave., Rattlesnake Drive, etc.) and the current condition will be updated in the final plan.
- Begin 45-day public comment period
- Display poster at trailheads and other opportunities around the neighborhood – Tom
- Coordinate with neighborhood council leadership teams to help get the word out and encourage public review and comment on the draft plan. – All

- Review the changes to Missoula Avenue – The project appears to be complete with much improved bike and pedestrian space but neighborhood suggestions for traffic re-routing were not implemented.

Commenting on the Higgins corridor plan – There is currently an opportunity for public comment available on the Engage Missoula website.

Commenting on the County master trail plan project – This is a new planning effort that will include objectives for connectivity. A public survey is open now and Bob will send a link. Emily will input Rattlesnake neighborhood trail needs for the committee.

Public comment – Tom had provided the committee with a review of the current Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and subsequent annual Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), currently open for public comment, with identification of Rattlesnake neighborhood projects. Bob had drafted a letter from the committee to Aaron Wilson, requesting that the two major corridors (Van Buren/Rattlesnake, and Greenough Duncan) receive a higher priority for safe walking and biking and supporting needs for increased bus service, street sweeping, curb cuts and other ADA/accessibility improvements, and vehicle speed reduction. Tom will send the letter to Aaron Wilson for the committee.

Identify the next meeting date & time and prioritize discussion items:

September 14, 2021, location and time to be determined.

Adjourn