



MINUTES

Transportation Safety Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting

February 1, 2024 at 4:00 P.M.

Coburg City Hall

91136 N Willamette Street

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Bell; Chair, Brandon Rhodes, John Lehmann, Bryan Hamburger, McKenzie Bryant, John Marshall, Jean Schapper (via zoom),

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Vilma McDonald (citizen alternate), Michael McDonald (citizen alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

GUESTS/STAFF PRESENT: Adam Hanks, City Administrator; Brian Harmon, Public Works Director; Larry Larson, Chief of Police; Megan Winner, Planning Director

TRANSCRIBED BY: Madison Balcom, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bell called the meeting of the Coburg Transportation Safety Ad-Hoc Committee to order at 4:04 pm.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Bell called roll.

WELCOME

1. Introductions

Everyone went around and introduced themselves.

2. Committee Scope – Resolution 2023-15

City Administrator, Adam Hanks went over the goal of the committee as tasked in Resolution 2023-15.

Ms. Bell mentioned that transportation in Coburg has always been a hot topic, and they really need input and recommendations from this committee and the citizens to help make changes.

Mayor Bell also noted that she and Council were very appreciative of the interest from the community in participating on this Ad-Hoc committee.

3. Deliverable to Council

Mr. Hanks said that staff would like to bring requests to Lane County more as a package rather than as individual requests, which may take some time to implement. Staff would also like to provide the committee with some education on the questions and concerns that come up throughout the process. The focus of this committee is the human scale elements regarding transportation safety within Coburg.

4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Ms. Bell volunteered as Chair, and Bryan Hamburger volunteered as Vice Chair.

MOTION

Ms. Bell moved, seconded by John Lehmann to assume Nancy Bell as the position of Chair, and Bryan Hamburger as the position of Vice Chair.

Motion passed unanimously — 7:0.

PRESENTATION BY STAFF

Mr. Hanks presented details on the different jurisdictional control and regulatory authority of the streets within the Coburg city limits, noting that it is ultimately an important component of the recommendations but that the committee doesn't need to focus on that in the initial discussions and formulation of recommendations. Staff will assist with the regulatory aspects of the potential projects being considered

1. Safety Enhancements

Mr. Hanks gave a presentation on pedestrian safety, including light beacons for crosswalks, additional marked crosswalks, and signage and lighting improvements.

2. Speed Reduction and Control

Mr. Hanks then gave a presentation on speed reduction, including speed limits and signage, traffic calming devices, crosswalks, and trees, landscaping, and design elements. He mentioned available tools and possible opportunities regarding certain areas and streets.

He then presented ideas for intersection improvements and also recommendation considerations, focusing on the N Willamette and Van Duyn intersection.

Michael McDonald asked who will decide on these decisions, like engineers, a committee, or outside sources.

Mr. Hanks said that they might engage their engineering consultant team in this process, but keep it at a minimum. The engineering team would definitely be involved in the implementation process.

Mr. Lehmann asked if the Ad-Hoc committee would make recommendations to council concerning funding or budgeting options.

Mr. Hanks said that wasn't initially part of the scope but it could when they get to the end of the recommendations, as funding is always an important consideration and street/transportation funds are always tight

Ms. Bell mentioned that Public Works and Administration could give them information on individual costs, and see if that changes the prioritization list.

Mr. Hanks said some recommendations could be a two part process; to first study a particular issue to fully understand the details/data, then move forward to implementation. The priority of recommendations might change based on what's most needed, wanted and viable.

John Marshall said there was a traffic impact study done on the new development by the N Willamette and Van Duyn intersection, and wasn't sure if that intersection was included in the study. He was concerned that because there weren't as many accidents as expected, improvements for it wasn't as high of a priority. Hanks noted that staff will provide the committee with the impact study associated with the new subdivision that Mr. Marshall mentioned.

Mr. Hanks and Ms. Bell said that there were not as many accidents as they expected there, but that will not hinder their efforts for improvement at that intersection.

Mr. Marshall asked if it was possible to have someone, like the Safe Routes to School program, to come in and help evaluate and develop improvements for that intersection.

Mr. Hanks said yes, and provided them with a handout about the standards and possibilities for improvements based on engineer and study recommendations.

3. Project Ideas

Mr. Hanks presented the projects and improvements. The first project was putting a crosswalk and flashing beacon on Coleman and Pearl, where there are no crosswalks and it frequently gets busy. He mentioned that they know the cost as staff has recently been through the permitting and installation process for the beacons and signage on N Willamette and McKenzie Streets.

Mr. Lehmann asked if the costs for the lighted crossings was done by the County. Mr. Hanks said no, but they contracted through them and shared some of the costs. It was around \$20,000 to put those in. The next project was the N Willamette Street crosswalks. There are 4 different proposed spots for new crosswalks. He mentioned ranking them from most to least priority.

Mr. Hanks said that the one on Coburg Rd and Delaney St is the historic Hurley/Pollard house, which as a recent land use development approval that contains a condition of its approval to install the crosswalk as part of the project, which would be a cost and permit process responsibility of the developer rather than the City. For that reason, the committee may want to rank it as the lowest priority of the four proposed crossings.

Ms. Bell asked Chief Larson if they have had problems with people crossing Coburg Rd to get to Coburg Pizza. He said yes, and with the traffic on that road it would help to have a formal crosswalk marking.

Ms. Bell asked how much a permanent radar sign would cost and Mr. Harmon said they budgeted for 3 of those, and the funding for those was switched over to the beacon. For all 3, it was roughly \$28,000.

The next project was the N Willamette and Van Duyn intersection. He mentioned the new subdivision and how the route and traffic will change with that in place.

Mr. Harmon mentioned that they did a water line replacement project last year on Harrison, Macy and N Willamette in preparation for what's to come this next spring. They reconstructed Harrison from Van Duyn N to Macy, Macy W to N Willamette, N Willamette back to the intersection of Van Duyn. N Willamette will be reconstructed, have added sidewalks, some storm water management and some added speed cushions. He mentioned that speed cushions can cause some noise from bouncing equipment, trailers, etc.

Mr. Lehmann asked about making some of the streets a one-way. Mr. Hanks said that could help slow traffic down, but could cause other problems, and would result in a lot of new signage and extra projects. Mr. Harmon mentioned some potential problems with that, both staff agreed that one way designations are definitely a tool available to research and propose.

They discussed some other sidewalks and streets in the area.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Mr. Hanks asked if anyone had any other ideas in mind that they didn't touch on.

Mr. Hamburger asked about the street lighting. Mr. Harmon said that some are city owned and some are not. They are now requiring developers to install conduit, but it isn't in the code yet. Mr. Hanks touched on the lighting situation and the preference problems that come up from residents on the intensity of light, exposure of the light source and desire for night sky mitigation.

Mr. Marshall mentioned that the intersection at Willamette and Pearl backs up a lot during rush hour. He said they could bring this up to the county. Hanks noted that issue and will include it in future discussions and potentially within a committee recommendation.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Hanks proposed the fourth Thursday of every month at 4:00 pm.

February 22, 2024

March 28, 2024

April 25, 2024

May 23, 2024

June 27, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Bell adjourned the meeting at 5:35 pm.

APPROVED by the Transportation Safety Ad-Hoc Committee of the City of Coburg on this 22nd day of February, 2024.

Nancy Bell, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Sammy L. Egbert, City Recorder