

From: [Debbie PROST](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: FEEDBACK REGARDING NEW TRAFFIC PATTERNS ON BIRD DRIVE --- AGAINST THESE DESIGNS
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 8:51:10 PM

To Ketchum City Council and City Staff:

I live at 215-A Bird Drive and I am completely against the new traffic pattern changes that are being pilot-tested on Bird Drive.

General:

While I haven't received the copy of the feasibility and engineering studies conducted, it is doubtful there is even enough traffic on Bird Drive to warrant a traffic circle much less the multiple pinch points narrowing the street or making narrower and smaller radius turns on Wood River/Bird.

I am all for safety and security – but I understand the study that was conducted doesn't support that people are speeding around Bird Drive – I sure don't see it – and while I am generally a supporter of traffic circles – the first objective of a traffic circle is generally to facilitate traffic movement – which we don't have heavy traffic on Bird drive – and secondly – for calming – which there are other ways to achieve that (reviewed later) and as mentioned, it is doubtful the level of traffic on the street even warrants this.

This appears to be a very small minority in the neighborhood complaining – and these “temporary solutions” are going to disfigure the street for all the rest of us – even while temporary, a permanent would be an eye sore. These patterns disrupt the views of the beautiful mountains. I think it started with **one comment** back in spring of 2021. That doesn't warrant all of this.

DETAIL:

Pinch points: FIRMLY AGAINST THIS

- It is shocking to see a design that produces no “right of way.” Both of the signs – one on each side of the pinch point says to “yield to oncoming traffic.” For a traffic control pattern to be installed (albeit temporary) with no defined right of way produces a “Mexican stand-off.” Very poor design and likely puts the City at liability if an accident occurs
- The width of the “pinch point” is not wide enough for a fire truck to get through.
- Extremely ugly and distracting in its look and design.

I AM FIRMLY AGAINST THIS DEVICE – VOTE TO TAKE IT OUT AND NOT MAKE IT PERMANENT

Reducing turn space on corner of Bird and Wood River: firmly against this.

- Confusing, ugly eye sore and people are using it as a protected parking space

I AM FIRMLY AGAINST THIS TRAFFIC DEVICE – VOTE AGAINST MAKING THIS PERMANENT

Round-a-bout or as the residents call “LOUNGE-A-BOUT” or “PARTY CIRCLE”

- Complete eye sore
- Drivers regularly go left (the wrong way through the circle)
- Still speeding – slows some down, but many still speed (Actually making it more dangerous.)

And I was at one of the Friday night beach parties, and found it dangerous having the vehicle come so close to kids and people)

- While it is nice to get to know neighbors – a block party would be safer and achieve the same – residents have made lemonade out of a bunch of lemons.
- It is my understanding that the “study” that was conducted did not justify what a couple of area residents were saying – if the average speed is 22/23 MPH and there just aren’t that many vehicle this is not needed.

While I am generally in favor of the use of traffic circles, there does not appear to be a need for one on Bird Drive and the data does not support it. **THUS I AM AGAINST THIS TRAFFIC DEVICE.**

SUGGESTIONS:

- **If a few are speeding – then post a police/traffic officer and hand out tickets for 2 weeks – this is typically a good deterrent**
- **Use “sleeping police” or removable speed bumps – if there are 2-3 spots when the small minority feel there is a problem – using temporary speed bumps that are bolted down, and then removed during snow season for snow plows and reinstalled whenever necessary – there would be a much better fix. If people are speeding – they will damage their vehicle and it will cost them money**
- **The real problem seems to be that there are no defined curbs, sidewalks, or lanes. This seems to be the true root problem. If 6th, Buss Elle, Bird and Williams had curbs and sidewalks, this would reduce the width of the street and calm the “traffic” – having sidewalk would protect children from vehicles on adjacent streets.**

In sum – while I certainly want our neighborhood to be safe and drivers be calmed – the current solution is horrible, we are against it, and there are other solutions as noted above that would work much better and be safer for all, and improve the neighborhood.

I never received an invitation to be a part of the study or participate in any questionnaire. Where did you send the information? All on the street and neighboring streets should have received communication about this proposed project. I read about it in the Express.

Thank you for allowing feedback.

Sincerely

Deb B Prost

From: [Melissa Mollet Binnie](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Litter on the bike path
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 1:52:39 PM

Dear Ketchum City Council members,

I live in Parkside condominium and there is a lot of trash being throw along the bike path.

Why doesn't Ketchum have more trash cans and recycling bins on the bike path?

I am seeing and picking up more trash than ever before.

Thank you,
Melissa Mollet Binnie
Parkside resident since 2000
Former KFD member for 28 years

From: [HP Boyle](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Cc: editorialboard@mtexpress.com; [Andrew Guckes](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Council and P&Z on Comprehensive Plan
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 1:52:57 PM

As you embark on the Comp Plan audit, it would be a valuable exercise to audit yourselves on how well you all achieved the goals of the 2014 Plan, and present that to the Community. What was achieved and why? What was not achieved, and why? What kinds of things stand as roadblocks in achieving a Comp Plan? How can they be addressed? How would you, as the elected and appointed leaders tasked with achieving the goals of the Comp Plan, assess your performance? How have you used the Plan? How have you measured your progress against it? How have you reported on that to the residents of Ketchum? It would be interesting to hear Councilmen David and Slanetz address this, as they helped write it.

Based on the August 29 meeting, some of you seem to see the Plan as a tick-the-box exercise to put in a filing cabinet as soon as possible. Others of you seem to want the next plan to reflect the community's input and to be a guide for accountability in governance. Which group will control this effort?

I have attended more public meetings over the past several years than the average resident. I have never once heard a Comp Plan progress report. The Plan has been cherry-picked to justify whatever someone wanted to get pushed through the Council. Is this how the next plan will be used? If that is the case, don't waste any resources on it. But if you want the Plan to do what it should do, you need to add governance and accountability to it. Assign tasks to specific people. Create metrics of success. Set specific goals over specific time frames. Require periodic "state of the City" reports from the Mayor on progress. If you add accountability mechanisms to the Plan, it has a fighting chance of transcending political expedience and achieving the people's goals. If you don't, the next Plan will be about as successful as the last one.

Thank you,

Perry Boyle
Ketchum

From: [Kristine Bretall](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Emergency & Transitional Housing Plan
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:12:24 PM

I'm writing to indicate my strong support for this Emergency & Transitional Housing Plan for the City of Ketchum to adopt.

Last winter truly revealed the precarious position people here in the Wood River Valley find themselves in when winter sets in. As our overall population grows, it is inevitable that needs are exposed and I am well aware that last winter, we had folks in our community that were vulnerable to being unhoused in the depth of winter.

By adopting this plan I hope our community can begin to address the short and long term housing problems we are faced with.

I urge you to adopt this plan.

Kristine Bretall

From: [Neil Bradshaw](#)
To: [Lita West](#)
Cc: [Participate](#); [Carissa Connelly](#); [AllCouncil](#); [Jade Riley](#)
Subject: Re: Homeless Aid
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:17:25 PM

Thanks Lita

This will be placed in the public record for council consideration

Neil

NEIL BRADSHAW | CITY OF KETCHUM

Mayor

P.O. Box 2315 | 191 5th Street, W | Ketchum, ID 83340

o: 208.727.5087 | m: 208.721.2162

nbradshaw@ketchumidaho.org | www.ketchumidaho.org

On Aug 21, 2023, at 3:13 PM, Lita West <lita.w.west@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor

Please stay away from homeless subsidy. It is a tar baby. The establishment of programs will fuel more of the same. Please note the “compassionate” collapse of liberal cities. Homeless people need to be accommodated where housing is less expensive and there are more job opportunities. Homeless people don’t want to live in controlled circumstances. The 27 million dollar tiny homes project in San Francisco has two people in the village! A total failure and waste of money! The homeless have demonstrated that they want to be on the streets freely drugging. The costs for medical and hospital services as well as police and sanitation services is astronomical for the city resulting in all negative and no positive income from insurance or from the impoverished drug takers. This doesn’t even factor in lost revenue from losing foot traffic and renters for spaces blighted by the free use of drugs and defecation on the streets. There is no end of farmers and food producers that need help. Jobs are everywhere if these people would turn their lives around they could become self supporting. The blind spot of these people being responsible and contributing members of society is lost on feel good policies. Why are they exempted from paying taxes and obeying the laws on our books?

Group think is very dangerous on this issue and feeling sorry for those who’ve ruined their minds and bodies drinking and drugging is enabling and destructive. This can all be cured by applying laws on the books. No vagrancy- no public defecation- no public nudity- no drug use- no dealing drugs- no panhandling-

Thank You for Protecting our Beautiful Town

Lita West

Sent from my iPhone

From: [james fabe](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: 3008 Warm Springs Road- please fix street
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:49:57 AM



From: [HP Boyle](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Pulic Comment for KURA and City Council
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:16:32 AM

I listened to the joining KURA/Council meeting today. As the consultant hired by the Council documented and was reinforced by a KURA commissioner, Town Square has not been well-maintained under this Administration. I urge the Council to require a maintenance program to be included in the City budget, concurrent with making a capital expenditure on the Square.

Town Square's deterioration reflects an endemic lack of capital budgeting and long-term maintenance planning for town buildings. Good practice would include a maintenance schedule for every City asset that flows into the budget on a proactive basis.

Another example of something needing to get its required follow through: when the Council last set the in-lieu of fee, they committed to revisiting it in a year. It's been a year. The equivalent cost has gone up. Not adjusting that fee seems like a dereliction of the Council's fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers and residents.

Likewise, one of the conditions for Bluebird was replacing the ten significant trees it cut down. Will the Council be holding the developer accountable for that? Where will those trees go? The Bluebird developer seems like a major beneficiary of Town Square's redevelopment. Perhaps he could live up to his obligations and chip into the project with some trees.

Finally, it is clear from the comments at the meeting that it is a foregone conclusion that the Starbucks lease will not be renewed. If that is true, perhaps the lessee should be informed. Or if it is not a conclusion, perhaps it should not be stated as such in public meetings without the presence of the lessee.

Thank you,

Perry Boyle
Ketchum

From: [Louise Royston](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 8:14:33 PM

Attn: Courtney Hamilton - Re 'Ketchum Town Square makeover'

Dear Ms Hamilton,

I read the article in today's Idaho Mountain Express with my usual eye roll and sigh when it comes to council business.

The 'Town Square' does NOT need a 'makeover' and more money wasted on an area that has already cost a ton and left an unimaginative and impersonal paved area used only by tourists.

We need help for local workers:

AFFORDABLE HOUSING (WAY more than just the Bluebird)
CONTROL of short term rentals (Air B&B and VRBO)
DECENT WAGES for the long time local workers struggling on
NO RIDICULOUS, EXPENSIVE AD CAMPAIGNS like the tone deaf 'Stay Sunny'

I moved to Hailey because I couldn't stand all the construction, rudeness of visitors and part time owners, traffic, construction and short term rentals in your city and so grateful not to have to come to Ketchum very often

Focus your efforts and money on the right things and maybe we have a hope of turning this valley around although, sadly, I doubt that is possible any longer.

Yours, a frustrated ex 'Ketchum local'

From: [Erin Smith](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Mtn rides Limelight condo stop
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 4:08:09 PM

Hi. I'd like to suggest the city or mountain rides look at the limelight condos bus stop; is there a safer spot to temporarily relocate the stop during the reconstruction of the condos?

The stop is on a bit of a bend in the road as you go into town from WS. There is now a construction fence, at least partially, blocking where people stand to wait for the bus. I've noticed people waiting for the bus who are in clothing that blends into the fencing; some have appeared to crouch back because there's not a lot of shoulder left. In addition, it's a busy site with lots of trucks, traffic, and equipment.

My observations to date have been during daylight hours. I can't imagine the safety will be enhanced as we get into shorter days or when snow piles up.

Sincerely

Erin P Smith

Sent from my iPhone

From: [City of Ketchum Idaho](#)
To: [Participate](#)
Subject: Form submission from: Contact Us
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 9:13:18 AM

Submitted on Friday, August 25, 2023 - 9:13am

Submitted by anonymous user: 184.177.130.239

Submitted values are:

First Name Matt

Last Name Paxton

Email scurvybr@aol.com

Question/Comment

Hi,

I would like to comment on the increase traffic and noise on Saddle road between highway 75 and Sun Valley road.

Yesterday morning starting at 7:15am I counted 10 Semi-trucks most of them side dump trucks in a 30 minute period transit Saddle road. Our (formally)? residential street with a 25 MPH speed limit has turned into a major thorough fare for large trucks. During the whole day I counted almost 75 Semi-trucks and many more regular trucks on the street.

The size, noise (jake brakes), speed and dust from unsecured dirt loads have spoiled our enjoyment of living on this street. The removal of the 25 MPH sign for widening the bike path (it is still laying on the grass where it was removed) has seen an increase in the speed of cars and trucks using the road. My 90 plus year old neighbor was almost struck by a truck just trying to cross the street, something must be done about this

A solution could be that Sun Valley road should be the designated a truck route and return some semblance that Saddle road is primarily for residences.

Sincerely, Matt Paxton

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.ketchumidaho.org/node/7/submission/11642>

From: [Shawn Phillips](#)
To: lostfound@mountainrides.org; info@mountainrides.org
Cc: [Participate](#)
Subject: left stranded and irate
Date: Sunday, August 27, 2023 10:14:28 AM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2023-08-27 at 9.53.24 AM.png](#)

hi mountain rides,

this past wednesday night i was left stranded on your valley route in hailey (9:22pm at myrtle) due to your new "no bikes after dark" policy ... and i'm just cooling off enough to write a complaint that's more constructive than fuming.

your decision to enact this change in policy without adequate notice, and without grace period or exception, could only have one outcome :

stranding someone at night, with a bike, and in the case of the valley route, 10-15 miles from home.

how absolutely inconsiderate, and i mean that literally as well as emotionally. that policy change was executed without consideration of any kind for your ridership.

you might bristle at this suggestion, because there technically is a notice on the website ... however, it's positioned at the part of the page that the fewest eyeballs ever reach ... further, the rider alert leads off with a notice about the elkhorn music festival, the bit about the bikes starts with the positive statement that bike racks are available, and "daylight use only" is in a light, sans-serif font that's been italicized, ensuring that it's not easy to read.

how about an obvious " POLICY CHANGE : NO BIKES AT NIGHT " ... or anything that actually calls attention that a change has occurred.

worse still, the website is the only place you thought to make an announcement of any kind.

why would you think anyone would visit the mtn rides website with the thought, "i wonder if there have been any significant policy changes this august?!".

there was no effort whatsoever to make any other alert ... including signage on the busses themselves and/or at the bus stops. seriously, even a piece of copy paper taped up in the busses with some bold red text would've shown a desire that the ridership actually got the message.

and again, the only logical outcome, if any consideration whatsoever had been given to this situation, is that a person who easily missed this policy change would be stranded at night with a bike that's hard to transport.

btw, when the bus driver stopped me from loading my bike, i said " are you kidding, so you expect me to have to bike home now?! " and he replied " well you can ".

so condescending, what an insult to top it all off.

thanks for your time, and appreciate your consideration in the future.

best,
shawn

BLUE ROUTE
WARM SPRINGS
SUN VALLEY
ELKHORN SPRINGS

VALLEY ROUTE - 2
SCHEDULES TO VIEW:
MONDAY-FRIDAY AND
SATURDAY/SUNDAY/HOLIDAY
SERVICE BETWEEN
BELLEVUE, HAILEY,

HAILEY ROUTE
WOODSIDE
COMMUNITY CAMPUS
AIRPORT
DOWNTOWN HAILEY

How much can you save by riding the bus? Click here to calculate your savings!

SEASONAL ROUTES - SILVER
SERVICE BETWEEN SUN VALLEY VILLAGE AND RIVER RUN SUMMER 2023

AIRPORT CONNECTIONS
SERVICE TO FRIEDMAN AIRPORT (SUN)

RED ROUTE
SERVICE FOR SV MUSIC FESTIVAL SUMMER 2023

RIDER ALERTS and NEWS

August 2023
If you live in Elkhorn, ride the bus to the SV Music Festival.
Bike Racks are available on a first come, first served basis. For passenger and driver safety, bike racks are for *daylight use* only.

VAN POOL

TWIN FALLS NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION (NEMT)

PARATRANSIT ADA



From: [Taylor Deering](#)
Subject: Recycling must improve in Blaine county
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 12:55:07 PM

Dear officials, administrators and council members,

The Blaine County website for elected, and non-elected members, officials and employees is lacking contact information, such as direct phone numbers and email addresses. There are individuals who specifically are hired or appointed by the county to address the issue at the heart of this email, however, I don't have the contact information for those individuals and so you are entrusted to please forward this information to the correct parties.

I am not a permanent resident, my residency is in Maryland, however, my husband was born and raised in Sun Valley, his entire family lives and works in this county and we spend a good portion of our time here and have for the last 16 years together. Unfortunately, the recycling services that are available to Blaine County residents are insufficient and not to the standards expected in this modern era. Regardless of your politics, everyone can agree that it is better to reuse or recycle a product such as a cereal box, rather than adding it to the already substantial amount of permanent waste that goes into our landfills. Here is a community ripe with wilderness and natural beauty. Where else should it be of more dire concern and focus than here to preserve that beauty and natural richness. Finding and securing recycling resources to allow families of this county to not unnecessarily burden these natural resources with permanently storing recyclable goods in landfills - improvement would be a win for everyone!

How can Valley residents (and tourists) start to recycle our tremendous amount of clean food cartons such as cereal boxes and brown paper bags such as from the grocery store and egg cartons and glass? These are recyclable goods, but they are going into the landfill right now and the impact and results of that lack of service causes most residents I know here to not recycle at all. They don't see the point, because it's too confusing for them about what can and cannot be recyclable, and it also sends a message that Blaine county is OK filling up landfills with recyclable goods. Yikes! Hearing and learning that glass is not recycled here, but rather crushed and added to the landfill causes county residents to suspect that their efforts to clean, sort, store and dispose of glass with the intention for it to be recycled (as is suggested and advertised on the Blaine county website for recycling services) only to then learned that their efforts and care about this issue is a complete waste of their time and energy because it is all ending up in a landfill anyways, well that is ruining the trust that residents have in Blaine county and causes widespread suspicion that the local government is not doing what they claim or what they should.

I am here to volunteer in any efforts to bring more comprehensive recycling service to the Blaine county residents. For years, I have been hauling my recycling elsewhere, and it just seems ridiculous that other counties can provide better services in eco-conscious behavior than this rich county that attracts world travelers. Please explain what the challenges are, and please consider part-time residents like myself who are accustomed to comprehensive recycling services elsewhere and expect this county to do their part.

Kind regards,

Taylor Deering
214-606-6797

Sent from my iPhone