

Participate

From: connie aronson <connieessentialcore@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2024 1:44 PM
To: Participate
Subject: West Ketchum Stop sign

We live on Bird Drive. The bike path crossing on Wood River Drive, near Penny's currently has a "yield to pedestrian" sign.

However, most drivers, including work trucks, hardly slow down at the crossing. There needs to be a stop sign as it's very dangerous for dog walkers and young parents out walking with strollers. Currently there are 2 regular street stop signs on either side of the road for *pedestrians!*

West Ketchum has numerous dog owners, and the bike path is typically busy at all hours of the day. Most dogs are on leash, but many run and play with each other, and an excited dog running through the intersection at the wrong time can be deadly. It's also quite typical that drivers are on their phones which makes it even more precarious for us.

I hope the city will consider placing a stop sign on the bike path. There was one at one time.

Sincerely,
Connie Aronson

Connie Aronson

ACSM Certified Exercise Physiologist
Corrective Exercise Specialist (TBMM-CES)

ACE Gold Certified PT
IDEA Elite Personal Trainer
AIS Therapist TRX Trainer

Box 1274 Ketchum
Idaho 83340

www.conniearonson.com
www.facebook.com/essentialcore
Instagram@conniearon

Now on Amazon !! Essentail Core Poster-Connie Aronson

fitnessconnect@<https://www.ideafit.com/user/51593>

Participate

From: Neil Bradshaw
Sent: Saturday, March 16, 2024 1:33 PM
To: Pat Higgins
Cc: Participate; Jade Riley
Subject: Re: Comprehensive plan and Washington parking lot

Thanks for your email Pat

We take parking seriously and are always looking to improve our parking management.

The good news is that, with our wide avenues, we have some options in terms of parking distribution.

We have overnight winter parking in certain designated areas that has also proven to be well understood and well used.

We continue to analyze the data to see where we can address areas of parking congestion and will look to fine tune the management of these areas.

Key to successful parking management is getting all-day workers to park at the edge of the commercial core and not in the center of town. This means we have to improve our sidewalks to make it easier to walk an extra few blocks.

Public transportation is also important.

My point being is that there is no “silver bullet” but a multi-faceted approach will improve the situation.

Good data is also key and we continue to get new information of the “load factor” of each block.

Again, thanks for your email. I am happy to meet and discuss further.

Cheers

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 Mar 16, 2024, at 12:59 PM, Pat Higgins <pathiggins@cox.net> wrote:

Dear Mayor Bradshaw and City Council Members,

I have attended many city council meetings .The topics of affordable housing and parking have been on many agendas . My husband Alex was on the comprehensive meeting board in the '80's which helped to put into place the hillside ordinance. We have been reading your updates and attended the meeting on Thursday at Ketchum Hotel. Many people mentioned parking and wanted to know why it was not included in the Comprehensive Plan meeting? It should be!

Last week I drove around town looking at the big buildings that have private underground parking. These developers, even tho expensive have followed the rules of providing parking for their tenants and residents. I noticed that the city of Ketchum

doesn't necessarily follow these rules.

La Saison, Christiania Bldg, Limelight Hotel, Zynergy, 5th and Main, 83340 Bldg, 511 Bldg, 100 4th Street, Mind Bender, Wells Fargo Bank, Timbers, 1st and 1st, Residences at Evergreen, Christophe, West Ridge, Copper Ridge, Lost River/ Burger House building, Ketchum Works, Olympic Terrace, Appalation Hotel I am sure I missed a few ! The point is all of these buildings either have private underground parking or parking in their project for residents and tenants. Can you imagine if these projects didn't have underground parking ?

Past City Councils have always said it's it has been too expensive to dig underground, including this council, the price goes up each year.... It will never be any cheaper to dig underground than as it is at this moment. The city needs to provide at least as many public parking spaces that they are removing from Main Street and The Washington lot and any other public lots that will be turned into housing.

The businesses in town will suffer if people can't park. They will have a harder time attracting employees, especially if they have to walk 6 blocks in the dark during winter months when icy. Ketchum is a tourist town and people bring their cars and want a reasonable place close to park.

I have read the February 2022 survey results on parking. The consensus of 386 residents and businesses who participated from this survey, is we need more parking. Whether you agree or not, cars are the major way of transportation to and from here. Otherwise, why is ITD investing Millions of dollars into improving the highway? We all need a car to get to work, Post Office, Market, Church, Redfish, Copper Basin, Silver Creek, Twin Falls etc....tourist and residents! We can't all ride the bus, and it's a false to believe this. During winter, the sidewalks especially at night if your going out to dinner can be treacherous if icy. It would be great to turn Ketchum into Zermatt and be a car free zone !

Mountain Rides Transportation stop before midnight and the bars close at 2:00, it sure would be nice for folks who shouldn't be on the road to have a place to park a car overnight if they are going to be out and don't want to risk drunk driving or having their vehicle towed.

We the taxpayers are funding the Bluebirds / workforce housing. You, as the Mayor and Council should represent all of us, even those over 65! Please figure out a way to increase public parking in this town, including more handicapped parking.

Sincerely,

Pat Higgins

By the way I did not include in my thoughts all the parking places that have been removed while big construction is going on, it really sucks!

Sent from my iPad

Participate

From: Pat Higgins <pathiggins@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2024 10:53 AM
To: Participate
Subject: Question / Comment for 2:00 KURA meeting March 18,2024

I read this comment posted by former council member Jim Slantez , in Feb 28, 2023 edition of The Mt Express in regards to the article about Washington St Parking and URA funding usage . Can you please explain and clarify if this is true ?

Weather or not you are for or against this project there are a few facts that should be made more transparent. First of all the URA is not permitted to directly fund a private developer. Therefore the 8 million can only be used for public infrastructure surrounding the project such as sidewalks and trees and public benches. Eight million for those entities is quite a stretch, which leads me to think that the greater part of the eight million would be going to financing the project in a manner which may be questionable under Idaho code.

The other fact that needs to be presented to the public is that the developer as a non profit will pay zero taxes on all residential units in this project. Hence, millions of dollars in future taxes will not be paid into public coffers over the lifetime of this project.

Without saying whether this project is good or bad for the community there should be transparency on the actual costs that taxpayers will be paying and future tax base that will be sacrificed. The URA needs to make these numbers available to the public and also be held accountable to local taxpayers who will not only pay into the eight million, but also carry the deficit of the residents in the building who are using public services while their rents are being subsidized by taxpayers at large since the owners of the building will not be paying taxes on the residential part of the building. On a more macro perspective the developers will likely be buying the debt tax free at 8% interest. This may not effect much locally but if you are a federal taxpayer it may raise some concerns.

On a more random conspiratorial note some of the same players that lent money to the early URA and then likely bought the bonds sold to pay off that debt, are some of the same people who are involved in this project.

Crawling down the rabbit hole slightly deeper, when the bond investors realized that they made a mistake in figuring out the sunset date of the Ketchum URA they somehow got Mark Eschman, by random chance the broker of the bonds, appointed chairman of the URA to possibly take care of the mistake and insure their investment. To err is human but to appoint the broker of the bond, chairman of the URA in order to clean up that error is questionably criminal.

As taxpayers, we need to make the true cost of the project transparent and to hold the URA accountable.

Pat Higgins
Sent from my iPad