

A Meeting of the Meridian City Council was called to order at 4:31 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, 2024, by Mayor Robert Simison.

Members Present: Robert Simison, Joe Borton, Liz Strader, Anne Little Roberts and Doug Taylor.

Members Absent: Luke Cavener and John Overton.

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Liz Strader	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Borton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anne Little Roberts	<input type="checkbox"/> John Overton
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Taylor	<input type="checkbox"/> Luke Cavener
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor Robert E. Simison	

Simison: Council, we will call the meeting to order. For the record it is March 12th, 2024, and 4:31 p.m. We will begin this afternoon's work session with roll call attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Simison: Next item up is the adoption of the agenda.

Borton: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Borton.

Borton: Move we adopt the agenda as published.

Strader: Second.

Simison: Have a motion and a second to adopt the agenda as published. Is there any discussion? If not, all in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed nay. The ayes have it and the agenda is adopted.

MOTION CARRIED: FOUR AYES. TWO ABSENT.

CONSENT AGENDA [Action Item]

1. **Approve Minutes of the February 27, 2024 City Council Work Session**
2. **Approve Minutes of the February 27, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting**

- 3. Fivemile Pathway Easement at ACHD Maintenance Property (ESMT-2024-0015)**
- 4. TM Center Subdivision No. 2 Partial Release of Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Easement (2022-072452) (ESMT-2024-0031)**
- 5. TM Center Subdivision No. 2 Partial Release of Sanitary Sewer Easement (2023-029582) (ESMT-2024-0032)**
- 6. TM Center Subdivision No. 2 Partial Release of Water Main Easement (2023-029598) (ESMT-2024-0033)**
- 7. Stapleton Apartments Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Easement No. 1 (ESMT-2024-0041)**
- 8. Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law for Nine Mile Creek Bungalows (SHP-2023-0003) by Robin Shea, Owner, located at 2055 S. Locust Grove Rd.**
- 9. Interagency Agreement for Water and Sewer Construction/Roadway Construction, Linder Road - Franklin Rd. to Overland Rd.**
- 10. Development Agreement (Crowley Park Subdivision H-2023-0053) Between City of Meridian and Gilbert RE Holdings, LLC for Property Located at 4135 W. Cherry Ln.**
- 11. Monument Donation and Placement Agreement between the City of Meridian and the Emma Edwards Green Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution**
- 12. Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) Accredited Agency Letter of Agreement**

Simison: Next up is the Consent Agenda.

Borton: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Borton.

Borton: There were no changes, so I move we approve the Consent Agenda as published, for the Mayor to sign and Clerk to attest.

Strader: Second.

Simison: Have a motion and a second to approve the Consent Agenda. Is there any discussion? If not, all in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed nay? The ayes have it and the Consent Agenda is agree to.

MOTION CARRIED: FOUR AYES. TWO ABSENT.

ITEMS MOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA [Action Item]

Simison: There are no items moved from the agenda.

DEPARTMENT / COMMISSION REPORTS [Action Item]

13. Procurement Month Proclamation

Simison: So, with that we will move on to Item 13, which is a Procurement Month Proclamation. If I could have Keith and team join me at the podium. So, Council, it's that time of the year where we take a moment to celebrate the activities of our procurement professionals and I think it's no secret that maybe for Doug, one of our newest ones, that, frankly, we have the procurement leaders in the state, both from I think -- maybe not amount of work, but I think the quality of the work and definitely from the legislative side where we advocate for good procurement policies and he has been a leader in that effort for many years through his -- in the IPPA in that context. So, with that we will go ahead and read the proclamation and, then, turn it over to you for any comments, Keith. So, whereas the public procurement profession plays a significant role in the efficiency and effectiveness of both government and business and whereas in addition to the purchase of goods and services procurement adds value to the organization by performing such functions as executing, implementing and administering contracts, developing strategic procurement strategies and cultivating working relationships with suppliers and departments within the organization and whereas the Idaho government procurement professionals dedicate themselves to providing the best value for every taxpayer dollar and continue to expand their knowledge, skills and abilities and whereas the Idaho Public Purchasing Association through its members is committed to providing high caliber strategic, logistical and operational support of all agencies associated with the chapter and whereas the IPPA recognizes, supports and practices the public procurement values and guiding principles of accountability, ethics, impartiality, professionalism, service and transparency established by the National Institute for Public Procurement. Therefore, I, Mayor Robert E. Simison, hereby proclaim March 2024 as Procurement Month in the City of Meridian and urge the residents of our community to join the Idaho Public Purchasing Association in recognizing the role of purchasing and materials management profession within business, industry and government, dated this 12th day of March 2024. So, congratulations on that and thank you and all your team.

Watts: Council, I -- yeah, I want to take this opportunity to introduce you to your procurement staff. Darren Brasseur here he has -- he started a year ago July. He is a buyer and some of you might recognize our newest buyer Sandra Ramirez. She did

take a little hiatus from the city for about a year and a half and came back and joined our staff again. We want to -- I would like to thank you all for your support in the efforts that we do here at the city and as well as supporting me with my time down with the legislature as well. We will continue to fight for good laws and good change and speak our mind when sometimes we see some legislation that may not be so favorable and there is some I just found today, so I will be discussing that with you folks soon. But I just want to thank you all again for your support.

Borton: Mr. Mayor? Hey, Keith.

Watts: Yes.

Borton: I just want to -- before you scurry out of here -- to you and your team, I have seen your work here for a long time and the leadership you provide, like the Mayor has described, as unbelievable. A lot of your success and a lot of the success you bring to the city is things that we don't hear and it doesn't come up and there are not bid disputes and there are not problems with our contracts and that has a lot of granular detail that is easy -- there is lots of opportunities to skip -- maybe skip a step or cut a corner and you never do and you don't let anyone else do that and you don't let the City Council do that year over year over year. It's not by accident that you are recognized throughout the state and I know your name, because I run with that crowd down at the Capitol and -- and you are regarded as just the best of the best. People trust and respect you and I know all of us up here do. Keep up the great work with you and your team it really means the world, because it's just -- it's big numbers going through. It takes a lot of watchful eyes and care and attention and you truly do care and that makes a big difference. So, I just wanted to recognize that for you. You have been a good friend for a long time and we can't do what we do without you. So, well done. Well deserved.

Watts: Thank you very much. We really appreciate it. Thank you.

Borton: Good job, Keith.

14. Mayor's Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) Quarterly Update

Simison: Thank you. And that's why Mr. Borton is going to be hard to replace. All right. Moving on to Item 14, the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council quarterly updates. Sahand, turn this over to you for introductory comments.

Rahbar: Mr. Mayor, City Council Members, thank you for providing us with this opportunity to share some of MYAC's recent accomplishments. Since our MYAC students have not yet had the pleasure of presenting before the new current composition of the City Council, I thought it would be appropriate for me to preface their presentation with just a little bit of additional context for you. The Meridian Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, what we call Meridian MYAC, was established almost 18 years ago now with the goal of providing all of our local high school students the opportunity to

get exposure to local government, to serve the community with volunteer projects and to develop their potential as leaders and over the nearly two decades that MYAC has been in existence it has really left an indelible mark on the City of Meridian. Everything from events like Trunk or Treat which started out as a MYAC project, Do The Right Day, which has turned into this city wide campaign of kindness. Everything from that to the recycling bins that you see in downtown Meridian as a result of participatory budgeting that MYAC helped implement. All of that provides evidence for the real and tangible impact that our city's amazing youth have had on this community and that legacy really does continue today. In the past calendar year, so 2023, our MYAC members collectively accrued over 2,000 hours of community service across a wide range of projects. They have learned from guest speakers who attend their meetings. They have planned and executed countless service projects and they have interacted and engaged with elected officials and public servants who have given them a real window into the inner functions and workings of local government and I think what's impressive to me is that they do all of this while balancing a million other commitments that we all know students have. Their work, their family, their relationships, college applications in some cases and scholarship applications. It's a really stressful time to be a student, it really is, and that's why I deeply admire their commitment to the hard work that they put on every day to make sure that our MYAC is the best that it's ever really been and so with that I want to welcome Valeria and Adrian, who are here to speak to you today and provide you with some insights about what MYAC has been up to these past few months.

Avila: Mr. Mayor, Council Members, my name is Valeria and I'm a senior at Renaissance High School.

Ramirez: Mr. Mayor, Council Members, my name is Adrian Ramirez and I'm a senior at Kuna High School.

Avila: So, today we are here to provide you an update on what MYAC has been up to in the past couple months and talk about a bit of what we have planned for the future. So, first we would like to talk about our leadership development opportunities that we have offered in the past couple of months. So, first we had a guest speaker Dr. Bub. He is the superintendent for West Ada and as a student from a West Ada school it was truly insightful to see the challenges and opportunities that he has had in this position. It's crazy how much he has to deal with, because there is even little things like when we have snow days and how much conflicting views that creates in -- with parents, students and everyone in the community. Recently we also had a Battle Reality with Cap Ed on February 26th. This was, again, an amazing opportunity. I have done this before -- like two years now for Mad City Money, but they restyled it a bit and did Battle Reality. So, it allows for our MYAC'ers to have an experience with budgeting and learning what credit is and I think that's so important, because I feel like in school we don't learn much of what that is and it doesn't really set up -- set us up financially that well and learning that when you are older. You have a family, you have all these responsibilities and you have to know how to budget your -- your money and know how to use your credit. It's -- I think this is a great thing that everyone should get to do. We did this at our last MYAC

meeting, so yesterday, and we learned about our communication style. So, we took this quiz and learned how we best communicate. Now, we are all a mix of all of these different communication styles, but we learned how to communicate with each other if they have a higher type of communication style, whether that means they are direct, logical, energetic or more people oriented and it's not that if you are one type of communication so that's bad, it's just you might have to gear your conversation a different way and it's just more about learning. This will be happening soon and it's the Youth Climate Action Summit and so this is an event apart from our MYAC meetings and it will allow students to learn more about conservation and renewable energy and a lot of -- or a lot of our MYAC'ers that are attending this are really interested in ecological sciences and stuff like that and just being an advocate for our community and I think this will be a great opportunity. Sadly, since we are both seniors and two -- or more of our member -- executive member -- member council members are also seniors, we will be departing next year, but that will mean that we get new executive council members next year and so we will be holding elections on April 22nd and I think it's just like an amazing opportunity, because we get to pass down our legacy to future students and those executive council members will be getting to go to the AIC annual conference and I personally love this conference. It was so fun. I got to bond with everyone. We did a community service project. We got to hear from different speakers, learn from everybody, talk to some of the council members even and I thought it was an overall experience, so I'm excited for our future MYAC execs to go.

Ramirez: Now, moving on to government affairs of MYAC. During as many meetings as we can we host a Kahoot Quiz, based off of the Mayor's own My Meridian Podcast and this has allowed us to teach members or give them the incentive to learn about parts and things in Meridian that you usually wouldn't know about. I for one learned that fire districts and fire stations were a thing here. I wouldn't know that if it weren't for the Kahoot we have. Right now we are finishing up season one and we are going to plan on moving on to more season two content. We also recently held a legislative panel in which three government members were able to talk with members of MYAC. We specifically have Senator Winder, Senator Bernt and Representative Petzke and the MYAC'ers were able to talk and -- and ask them a lot of questions whilst at this meeting and it's one of the most interactive meetings I have seen from MYAC'ers in my time as vice-chair. We also had the Youth Lobby Day here, which MYAC students received a crash course in lobbying with the American Heart Association. Then spent the morning going back to back meetings with lawmakers to encourage lawmakers to invest in Millennium fund dollars and tobacco, nicotine, vape education, cessation and prevention programs. MYAC also recently went and had a tour of the Capitol, in which they had a guided tour and listened in on the Senate session in the gallery and had a chat with Senator Bernt.

Avila: Okay. Now, moving on to our community service projects that we have had. So, we had Rake Up Meridian and we have been doing this for years now and we have been able to help many homes and rake up their leaves when it's autumn. We were also to help Councilwoman Perrault for joining and helping out with all of Rake Up Meridian. We also have the Winter Garden A Glow. So, we helped out throughout at

the Idaho Botanical Gardens to help guide visitors, just welcome them in and just be friendly to everyone. We also had Christmas in the Meridian parade. We ran alongside the parade floats on Main Street and handed out candy to spectators during the Christmas in Meridian parade and everyone that joined us would -- they walked and walked miles just to help out, I know from friends that did it, but it was a great event and it was really fun.

Ramirez: Yeah. It definitely got my steps in that day that's for sure.

Avila: We also had a guest speaker, Ken Christensen. So, he is the treasurer of the Meridian Food Bank. I thought this was a really cool speaker. I -- we all know about the Meridian Food Bank, but it's so interesting to learn about the logistics that go into it and how everyone that is part of this amazing organization is all volunteers. They do it out of the kindness of their heart and with that that inspired us to host our own food drive to help out the Meridian Food Bank. We decided to help them out, because there is never -- there is never enough help. There is always more to do. There is always more. So, we decided to allow people to bring in food, canned goods and everything and, then, bring them over to the Meridian Food Bank. We also did Valentine's cards. I know we have done this in the past as well. We wrote Valentine's cards in one of our MYAC meetings for the senior center and they were handed out during their lunch and it's just a way to brighten up their day. It's something to bring joy to everyone around us. We also had holiday helpers. Again we have done this in the past. Fourth year in a row. We were held -- we were asked to help set up decorations and so we painted -- we did a lot of the decoration making in our MYAC meeting so everyone was able to be involved in that. However, we also -- we also had MYAC'ers go to the event and set it up so people could actually enjoy it. Now, this will be coming up soon. We have hashtag Do The Right Day and, again, how -- as Sahand said earlier, this was started years ago and we have continued the legacy on. It is just a way to promote kindness in our everyday community. A lot of times I feel like people feel that with the world might not be as nice as it should be and this is just a way to spread joy, happiness to everyone, because everyone at the end deserves it and so this is just a day to kind of celebrate them. And had a senior prom. This is such a fun event to just like plan in general. We have a senior prom for the senior center -- senior -- senior citizens and we -- we hosted -- we were able to decorate, we are able to just plan the theme around everything and it's amazing to see how much fun the senior citizens have. It's like such a happy event. Now, our other events.

Ramirez: MYAC hosted a holiday party during last December and this event served as a way to celebrate those who have been in MYAC and for more people to join throughout the year. So, we had a little holly jolly celebration right before Christmastime and at the end of the year we host an end of year celebration. This is where we celebrate everything we have done over the year. We play games and we just genuinely celebrate everything that we have been able to do and hopefully celebrate a bright future in the upcoming years with MYAC.

Avila: So, before I end this I kind of want to talk about like the struggles we went through -- through making all of this and I can tell you that everything was so fun to do, but logistics of everything takes so much time and so much coordination with not only within our -- within our MYAC members and our executive council, but with everyone. We are trying to bring into MYAC every guest speaker. We had -- everyone has to coordinate with them their schedule and it's sometimes hard and we can't always execute the way we want to, but I know every year we try to learn from the past and try to better our MYAC for the better.

Ramirez: Thank you for your time.

Avila: Thank you.

Seal: Thank you. Council, any questions or comments?

Strader: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: A question and a comment. How many MYAC members, approximately, do you have this year?

Ramirez: That's a question for Sahand to answer.

Avila: I would say 20 to 30.

Rahbar: Yeah. Mr. Mayor, Council Member Strader, that's correct. The average number of our attendees at MYAC meetings -- so, the ones that we have twice a month -- is around 20 to 25, depending on what time of year it is. As we get later in the year or earlier in the year the number goes up and down a little bit, but that's the average. The total number of people that we have on our mailing list that have signed up for MYAC is closer to 75. That consists of people who essentially want to stay in the loop and learn about the sort of projects and events that we are putting on and many of those individuals do either come to one meeting throughout the year or they participate in a service project, but because we have quite an intense schedule and we have to have that availability every Monday after school, they might have conflicts with their school, with their sports or other things. So, they like to just stay in the loop, but not attend as many meetings throughout the year. So, 20 at the meetings and, then, 75 total who are just sort of in the know.

Strader: Got it. Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: Just a quick comment, Adrian and Valeria. I really appreciate your positivity and the impressive amount of volunteer hours that your members have logged. You do make a huge difference and I think it's fantastic to see. So, thank you.

Avila: Thank you.

Ramirez: Thank you.

Taylor: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Taylor.

Taylor: First just great presentation. It's not easy to stand in front of strangers and present the way you did, so congratulations. I think that's great. I did have a question. How do you find the new members? Recruit? Word of mouth? Are there other things that you do to encourage more people to participate?

Avila: So, we have been working on -- on that. So, we have done a couple things. We have -- we do have an Instagram page, so our Instagram page that anyone could open, they can do -- I run it, so they can DM me, I will let them know what is going on, but we have also -- we also have done announcements at school. So, we reach out to schools and let them know, oh, like can you post this and like can you help reach out? We have counselors recommend people to join MYAC. We also have just word of mouth and I think we have done flyers as well.

Simison: And they also will do bring your friend day type stuff. Competitions to try to get people engaged. But one of the biggest challenges is since West Ada has gone away from their day of registration, which is where we used to have booths set up and had a lot of interaction, getting the word out -- especially in schools where you don't have a large presence can be difficult. Renaissance doesn't have a hard time getting more Renaissance people here, but the same cannot be said for getting Mountain View or a couple of the other schools. Council, any additional questions or comments? Thank you. Appreciate you guys being here. I look forward to a strong finish to the year.

15. Transportation Commission 2023 End of Year Report

Simison: Speaking of the year, next up will be Item 15, which is our Transportation Commission end of year report for 2023. I will turn this over to Chairman Steed.

Steed: Wow, talk about an act to follow.

Simison: Yeah. What have you been doing for the last year?

Steed: Try to keep you awake. Mr. Mayor, Council Members, good afternoon. I am Walter Steed, chair of the Meridian Transportation Commission, and this is our annual

report for the year 2023. The Transportation Commission was formed in February of 2013. It had previous renditions before that under different names, but we have been in this form since for -- what is it? Eleven years. It consists of nine appointed commissioners and meets in the Council Chambers the first Monday of each month. Myself and Jared Smith served as chair and vice-chair and did so in '22 and '23 and been reelected to do 2024. Other members are David Ballard, Stephen Lewis, Tracy Hopkins, Ryan Lancaster, Tom LeClaire, Zachary Shoemaker and Hoyoon Song serves as our youth commissioner. We are very appreciative of representatives from District Three Idaho Transportation Department, Ada County Highway District, COMPASS, Valley Regional Transit and the West Ada School District who served as ex-officio members. Under the -- under the direction of Caleb Hood, previous associate planner Miranda Carson, provided primary staff support to the Commission for most of 2023. Tricia Murray, deputy city attorney, provides legal guidance and in March Sergeant Tara Smith took over for Corporal Randy Goodspeed, providing regular traffic issues and concerns from the MPD to the Commission. City staff provides the Transportation Commission monthly updates regarding the progress of ITD and ACHD projects in design and construction. In 2023 we started something new, which was setting aside time and getting official reports from ex-official members telling us about other things that are going on in their areas that we may not have heard of. City staff from police and parks and other staff from the ex-officio agencies interact with us at various times during the year, as do members of the public. In January of '23 the Commission finalized their recommendations to the Council on the highest priority roadway, intersection and community program projects for 2023. This work was the culmination of the Commission's work for -- from previous months, including recommendations from the TC prioritization subcommittee. Corporal Goodspeed discussed a draft ordinance considering changing the default speed limit in Meridian to 20 miles an hour from the current 25 miles an hour. A subcommittee of the commission discussed that ideal, but did not endorse it. In February the agenda items included introductions of two new ex-officio members, David Reinhardt from the WASD and Lila Klopfenstein from COMPASS. Continued discussion occurred about development patterns, parking and pedestrian access near the Celebration and Overland intersection. An update from Commissioner LeClaire presented the ordinance and development subcommittees report on -- regarding -- regarding the downtown master plan. Moving to March the commission welcome Sergeant Tara Smith from police as our new liaison. The commission also heard a presentation from Ron Head at ACHD about a new crosswalk initiative that -- that allows pedestrians to start crossing signalized intersections prior to cars getting a green light. This has been started -- they have started implementing that. There are some logistics and some cost concerns. They will be gradually spreading it throughout the county. An update from Caleb Hood on the status of the intersection and pedestrian task force was given in March and concerns from a resident about access points into the commercial project on the southwest corner of Ten Mile and Cherry were discussed. Concerns about speeding on Eagle Road were also received that month and once again parking near Celebration and Overland was discussed by the Transportation Commission. In April the Commission learned of a concern from residents about crossing Linder Road at American Fork and Kodiak near Victory Middle School. It was agreed that WASD, ACHD and city staff should evaluate this further and

we are awaiting another report on that. A motion was made requesting Council petition -- petition ACHD to remove the parking restriction on East Cinema Drive just south of Celebration near Overland. Concerns were shared about noise from loud mufflers. A signal at Ten Mile and Tito. A need for a crosswalk at Black Cat and Gondola. And pedestrian flags on -- on Chinden and Locust Grove. On May the 1st the ordinance and development subcommittee met to review destination downtown, crash data and receive an update about the intersection and pedestrian safety -- safety efforts. During the main Transportation Commission meeting ACHD's John Watson provided an update on the traffic calming petition received for Lost Rapids Drive and we also discussed the crosswalk evaluation at Bird Park on that street. An update on the Pine Avenue extension from Ten Mile to Black Cat was included in the packet, as was information on parking and bike lanes from Centrepont Way behind Dick's Sporting Goods. ACHD also reported their findings on request in the Pheasant Point neighborhood. In June the Commission got an overview on speed cushions from ACHD staff. Valley Regional Transit provided the Commission with an overview of the upcoming 2024 service changes. The McMillan corridor, preservation of right of way, constraints to widening and this State Highway 16 overpass on that road were reviewed. At the Mayor's request we reviewed the Bell Tower Copper Cloud intersection in the Bridge Tower Subdivision for safety concerns raised by a resident. In July the Commission received an update from the ordinance and development subcommittee, which did not support changing the city's default speed from 25 to 20. A request for enforcement and a signal at River Valley Records was received and a potential roundabout at this location was discussed. In August the Transportation Commission received an update and discussed ACHD's proposed traffic calming policy. Their new pathway setback policy at intersections was also discussed and the draft integrated five year work plan for '24 to '28 was shared as it was available for public review and comment at that time. A draft letter was prepared for Council consideration regarding the initial draft of the plan. The Commission also heard a report from WASD on changes to bus pick-up and drop-off operations for Meridian Middle School on Camilla Lane. A subsequent report indicated that it was working very well. In September commissioners and staff were given a tour of PedSafety, a Boise based company, that specializes in the design and manufacturing of pedestrian accessibility and safety solutions. The tour included an overview of their development and production facility, as well as demonstrations of their technology and products. Moving to October, the Commission heard from a representative of Byrd about their scooter program. Additionally the Transportation Commission received an update on information from ITD on Eagle Road speed limits and safety analysis. Pedestrian flag requests were received for Main and King and Long Lake at Chinden. In November the final intersection and pedestrian safety report was shared with the Commission. VRT staff came to the commission and previewed the 2024 service changes that will be implemented in late June of this year. An update on the Linder Road overpass project was reviewed and it was pointed out the design was available on ACHD's website. Lost Rapids Drive speed data from -- from MPD and ACHD was reviewed and discussed. The Transportation Commission heard about a concern from residents living on a private lane just west of Meridian High School and their roads being used for after school pick-up. In December Brook Green, Pearson DeWitt and Brian McClure presented Linder Road, Pine to Ustick, design options that were going

out to the public via survey later that month. The commission also received an update from Brian on the ACHD capital roadway improvement guide matrix used by the city when ACHD is designing projects. Parking issues and how the Transportation Commission would or should handle requests from the public for parking in -- in various parts of town was discussed. The Commission explored the need for stop sign placement in the drive aisles at the Knight Hill project, which is at the southwest corner of Chinden and Linder. As you can see we managed to stay pretty busy. The members of the Transportation Commission are quite grateful for our opportunity to provide service to the citizens of Meridian and to the City Council regarding transportation questions, issues and systems in our community. Thank you.

Simison: Thank you, Walter. Council, questions, comments?

Borton: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Borton.

Borton: Walter, there was one comment in your report and there is a lot -- you covered a lot, so industry is here for sure. Thank you for -- for doing all the good work. It was about ACHD's presentation concerning changing the -- the lights and allowing pedestrians to start crossing prior to cars getting a green light. Can you give me a snapshot of what that proposal was? I had not heard about it.

Steed: It is not a proposal. It's something they are actually doing.

Borton: Oh.

Steed: It was announced in local media about the same time -- right before that maybe we may have asked for a presentation on it. It does involve some expense and some infrastructure work, so they couldn't just do it everywhere, they are working through the county doing it and it -- it holds all the traffic so pedestrians can get started into the crosswalks, given the chance to be seen and they are not just stepping out as the cars are starting to roll. They feel it will be a much -- for these busy intersections for pedestrians to get across them. You know as well as I do if you are sitting at a red light, you are watching the light, when you see it go green you start turning right and may not have looked to see if somebody is stepping off the curb yet. The idea of this is they step early, while you are being held.

Simison: Okay. Thank you very much, Walter. Appreciate you being here and all -- all your work and look forward to this year.

Steed: Thank you, sir. And if it's okay I'm going to stay for the next item.

16. 2024 Roadway, Intersection and Community Program Prioritization

Simison: You can stay as well. So, we will move on to Item 16, which is the 2024 roadway and intersection community program prioritization. Turn this over to Mr. Hood for any additional comments following up on last week's conversation.

Hood: Thank you, Mr. Mayor, Members of the Council. I have not heard anything from you over the last week, so I am ready, though -- Heather's back as well this week to take any notes, but we do need to get -- before the end of this week we do need to send Christy and the rest of ACHD our priority projects for 2024. So, didn't print off copies today. I don't know if you brought back your -- the 11 by 17 sheets. We do have the unified list that was requested two weeks ago now. I can go -- excuse me -- burn a couple of copies if you would like. But, again, I haven't made any changes and didn't make any additional copies. So, Mr. Mayor, I will stand for any -- again questions, direction, action that the Council would like to take this afternoon.

Simison: Okay. Thank you.

Strader: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: Mr. Mayor, thank you. Thank you, Caleb. And I listened in on the last meeting and I thought -- I thought that the additional context and feedback from the Transportation Commission was very helpful, especially regarding the need for a north-south corridor and it sounded like the prioritization for that would be Meridian Road. So, just wanted to check on this consolidated list. Where would I see that priority?

Hood: So, Mr. Mayor, Council Woman Strader, number 14 this year -- so, I'm in the far left-hand side. So, the -- again, the consolidated list and Meridian, Ustick to McMillan, is the first one that I -- that I'm spotting here and there should just be one more segment and, then, that corridor north of the freeway down to south of Overland, it's a state highway, and I do know that that is being worked on. You know, ITD is studying that. They are actually out for another -- it's not an RFP, but it's something similar, because it's less than a dollar amount than -- they actually have to go out -- but Six Mile Engineering had the last contract and they are looking at studying that corridor some more. So, most of that corridor again north of the freeway is largely complete. Looks like 35 is the second mile north of the freeway. So, 14 and 35 are the two miles north and that's essentially for ACHD purposes that's -- that's the end of the list. I will say, Mr. Mayor, if it's okay -- in the past the city has -- kind of to your request a couple of weeks ago -- included ACHD projects, transportation -- transportation regardless of who the lead transportation agency is -- on this list. Obviously, that's not the case here. We don't have any segments of Chinden or State Highway 69 or 55 on here, but at one time -- one point in time we actually did have a fully unified list that had our state priorities competing with ACHD priorities, so --

Strader: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: So, my -- my only question that remained -- and I kind of caught the answer to it I think in the last meeting -- was just do we want to keep the McMillan Road widening projects in their current -- I guess it looks like now the 2024 ranking is the number 11 and number 12, as opposed to swapping those and moving 13 and 14 up, given we have been told that that -- we are trying to get the preservation of right of way, but I don't think we have received feedback that ACHD is prioritizing that project anytime soon. So, that was my only piece I wasn't sure about. I don't know what other people think about that, but that -- that's the only piece that I wondered about swapping around. I thought the rest of the changes were good.

Simison: Council?

Taylor: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Taylor.

Taylor: I just want to say I think looking at what we did last week, all the conversation we had, I appreciated, Caleb, you and your team, highlighting a few things, especially regarding intersections and whatnot. So, I was pretty -- I'm pretty comfortable with what we have listed before us, so I appreciate your -- your good work on that.

Simison: And I think that -- I think there is going to need to be a little bit of extra work put in -- per the conversation last week -- or the last few weeks the range from the intersections which are not in here, even on Meridian Road that need to be added and, honestly, the Meridian Road segment is really not that different than McMillan in a lot of ways, except without the constraints, so it wasn't planned for five lines. So, that we are going to have a similar conversation with ACHD if that's what we are asking them to do is focus on that and adjust their plan. So, all of this is going to have some sort of impact conversation, but at least -- I think it provides the Transportation Commission opportunity to work on this throughout the year. We don't have to wait for ACHD. We could even, quite frankly, start working on this tomorrow or at their next meeting and take these conversations of considerations and look what needs to be added, increased or reconsidered in that case, because I don't know that we are going to create more intersections by next year this time just merely where are the priorities.

Strader: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Council Woman Strader.

Strader: Yeah. And I don't actually know if it -- if it will make a substantive difference, but, unfortunately, you know, swapping something a couple -- a couple of spots ahead. So, it seems like a lot of good work has gone into it. I appreciate your patience, Caleb, with us as we took a couple of meetings to get it right and I really appreciate you, Chairman Steed and the Transportation Commission, for looking at it again and giving

us more context. I think it resulted in a better -- better outcome. I'm happy to make a motion that -- I move that we approve the trans -- 2024 roadway intersection and community program prioritization.

Little Roberts: Second.

Simison: Have a motion and a second to approve the prioritized list. Is there any discussion? If not, all in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed nay? The ayes have it. It moves forward.

MOTION CARRIED: FOUR AYES. TWO ABSENT.

Simison: And, Caleb, thank you for pinch hitting this year. Heather, look forward to your work on this with the Transportation Commission in the next year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated.

Simison: All right. With that we are at the last item on the agenda.

Borton: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Borton.

Borton: Move we go into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho State Code 74-206(1)(f).

Strader: Second.

Simison: Have a motion and a second to go into Executive Session. Do I have any discussion? If not, Clerk will call the roll.

Roll Call: Borton, yea; Cavener, absent; Strader, yea; Overton, absent; Little Roberts, yea; Taylor, yea.

Simison: All ayes. Motion carries. The item is agreed to and we will go into Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED: FOUR AYES. TWO ABSENT.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (5:14 p.m. to 5:49 p.m.)

Simison: Council, do I have a motion?

Borton: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Borton.

Borton: Move we come out of Executive Session.

Strader: Second.

Simison: Have a motion and a second to come out of Executive Session. All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed nay? The ayes have it we are out of Executive Session.

Borton: Mr. Mayor?

Simison: Councilman Borton.

Borton: Move we adjourn.

Simison: Motion to adjourn. All in favor signify by saying aye. Opposed nay? The ayes have it, we are adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED: FOUR AYES. TWO ABSENT.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:59 P.M.

(AUDIO RECORDING ON FILE OF THESE PROCEEDINGS)

MAYOR ROBERT SIMISON

_____/_____/_____
DATE APPROVED

ATTEST:

CHRIS JOHNSON - CITY CLERK