



CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

November 12, 2024, 5:30 PM
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Susan Coleman
President Pro Tem Greg Mahler
Councilor Lisa Gourley
Councilor Angelita Sanchez
Councilor Josh Thorstad
Councilor Dave Trask

ABSENT

Councilor Dylan Richards

PLANNING COMMISSION

Vice Chair Jamie Melcher
Commissioner Joe Graybill
Commissioner Henry Wolthius
Commissioner Eva Journey
Commissioner Nancy White

MEDIA

Sarah Brown, The New Era

STAFF

Jason Ogden, Police Chief / City Manager Pro Tem
Cecily Hope Pretty, Assistant City Manager Pro Tem
Blair Larsen, City Attorney
Angela Clegg, Planning & Building Manager
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager

GUESTS

Garth Appanaitis, PE, Project Manager, DKS Associates

Work Session - Transportation System Plan

a) TSP Presentation

Garth Appanaitis provided an overview of the purposes behind updating the Transportation System Plan (TSP) and creating the North Sweet Home Area (NSHA) Plan. He noted that a TSP was required by State law and serves as the transportation element of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

He reviewed the draft goals related to transportation:

- Mobility, accessibility, and connectivity
- Safety
- Quality of life
- Economic development
- System management and maintenance

He reviewed identified needs in the following categories:

- Pedestrian
- Bicycle
- Safety
- Traffic
- North Sweet Home Area

He reviewed next steps including additional meetings with City Council adoption intended in February 2025.

Councilor Sanchez asked of the intended length of validity for the plan as proposed. Mr. Appanaitis stated that plans were designed to be valid for 20 years but some revisions may be necessary prior to 2045. Councilor Sanchez asked of the likelihood of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) agreeing to modify the Pleasant Valley and Highway 20 intersection based on the proposed plan. Mr. Appanaitis replied that the plan identified needs at the intersection but all final decisions would require ODOT approval and for the City to secure funding.

Planning Commission Vice Chair Melcher asked of the intent behind roundabouts. Mr. Appanaitis replied that when crashes do occur in a roundabout, they are typically at a lower speed and result in less serious outcomes. He added that in the correct traffic conditions, roundabouts were more efficient for drivers than other traffic controls.

Councilor Gourley asked if bicycle needs included an analysis of school locations which may have greater need for safe bicycle routes. Mr. Appanaitis replied that he had received that feedback in a prior session and that the maps presented were based on existing bike facility conditions rather than the surrounding area, but that the City had the discretion to prioritize projects based on other factors.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 PM.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Manager Pro Tem – Ex Officio City Recorder