



Public & Traffic Safety Committee MINUTES

February 12, 2025, 4:00 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

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Frank Gallagher

Vice Chair Joe Graybill

Committee Member Vince Adams

Committee Member Erin Barstad

Committee Member Bud Mather

ABSENT

Committee Member Mykal Hildebrand

COUNCIL

President Pro Tem Josh Thorstad, Council Liaison

Councilor Dylan Richards, Council Liaison (virtual)

STAFF

Cecily Hope Pretty, City Manager Pro Tem

Angela Clegg, Planning & Building Manager

Jason Ogden, Police Chief

Approval of Minutes

2024-11-13 Public & Traffic Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Adams moved to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2024 Public & Traffic Safety Committee. Committee Member Mather seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Gallagher, Graybill, Adams, Barstad, Mather

ABSENT: Hildebrand

Old Business

First Avenue Truck Signage

City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that the size and quantity of signage on First Avenue to indicate through-trucks were not allowed. Chair Gallagher stated that he had observed a reduction in trucks on First Avenue since the installation of the new signage.

No action was required for this item.

First Avenue Traffic Control Update

City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that an engineering firm had been selected to perform an analysis and make recommendations regarding temporary traffic controls on First Avenue and work was anticipated to begin soon. She noted that the Committee had recommended speed humps on First Avenue to City Council in 2015 for a cost of \$10,800 but City Council voted against approval of the new traffic control.

Vice Chair Graybill expressed interest in observational data regarding any preferred detours once traffic controls were installed.

Committee Member Adams expressed support for both permanent and temporary speed humps based on his observations in other cities.

No action was required for this item.

First Avenue Crosswalks

Chair Gallagher expressed support for additional or improved crosswalks on First Avenue, such as at Nandina Street.

Vice Chair Graybill noted the lack of a crosswalk at First and Main Street and recommended its addition. Committee Member Adams expressed agreement with both recommendations.

No action was required for this item.

Transportation System Plan

City Manager Pro Tem Pretty reminded the Committee that the Transportation System Plan (TSP) was approaching its final draft and stated that the first reading of the Ordinance to adopt the TSP was tentatively scheduled for City Council on April 22, 2025. She noted that Committee Members could submit comments to staff for final incorporation. Planning and Building Manager Clegg added that it would come before the Planning Commission before City Council for an additional public comment opportunity.

Vice Chair Graybill asked if the final draft was available for public review yet. City Manager Pro Tem Pretty replied that it was not but it would be distributed once available.

No action was required for this item.

New Business

Engine Brake Usage

Chair Gallagher stated that he had received community feedback regarding the use of engine brakes (or "jake brakes") despite a prohibition in City limits. Discussion ensued regarding enhanced signage reminding drivers of the prohibition. City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that existing signage was likely under the jurisdiction of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) but staff would investigate options.

Chief Ogden stated that engine braking was prohibited on all highways in Oregon.

No action was required for this item.

Good of the Order

Vice Chair Graybill asked of a prior request for stop signs at 12th Avenue and Tamarack. Chief Ogden stated that he reviewed the location and it was not an appropriate location for additional signage.

Committee Member Adams expressed concern regarding parking commercial vehicles on residential streets, particularly with those parked facing the wrong direction.

City Manager Pro Tem Pretty reminded the Committee that public safety and crime-related items are under the purview of the Committee if there were items they wished to discuss. She stated that the Police Department levy would be on the May ballot and that it funded the entirety of the department.

Committee Member Adams asked of issues related to bicycle safety in Sweet Home. City Manager Pro Tem Pretty stated that a section of the TSP addressed needs to enhance bicycle safety and facilities.

President Pro Tem Thorstad requested that the monthly data published in City Council agendas regarding Police Department statistics be included in future Committee packets.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 PM.

Chair

ATTEST:

City Manager Pro Tem, Ex Officio City Recorder