

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Michael Kyte
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes~
October 10, 2019

Bill Belknap
Staff Liaison

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<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/556/Transportation-Commission>

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Kyte, Chair; Phil Cook, Brian Johnson, Mike McGahan, Don Meyer, Bob Sanders

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ben Calabretta, Mary DuPree, Joel Hamilton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Belknap, Anne Peterson, Jared Hopkins (ITD)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Transportation Commission Minutes from September 12, 2019

Meyer moved and Johnson seconded to accept the minutes as corrected. Minutes approved by acclamation with Cook and McGahan abstaining.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Commission Communications

- Johnson reported that work slowed significantly at Sixth/Line Streets due to unexpected issues found in the Line Street tunnels. Johnson hopes that at least Sixth Street will be opened soon. Portions of Stadium Way that had been closed temporarily are now open.
- Meyer asked why a motor home parked on Travois Way hasn't been towed. Belknap said that would be a code enforcement issue for the Police Department.
- Cook asked about the next round of TAP funding. Belknap said the South Main Underpass project will be submitted and the preliminary concept design, hydraulic analysis, cost estimate and letter from SHPO regarding removal of the old Highway 95 bridge are already complete. Easements are being secured and letters of support will be solicited from this Commission, the University, and other entities.
- Cook asked if City staff were assessing pedestrian and bike traffic on Third Street. Belknap said they are conducting counts and collecting video at East City Park and the Third Street bridge to get a feel for overall traffic changes in the corridor. More data will be collected in the spring and compared with historical iCount data to provide an indication of how the bridge has affected east-west pedestrian and bike traffic.
- McGahan asked for an update regarding the left turn lane on eastbound D Street at Highway 95. Belknap said the preliminary layout and parking impact will be discussed at the

upcoming quarterly meeting with ITD. Some parking will need to be removed from both sides of D Street west to the alley. Engineering staff are doing an intersection analysis to demonstrate the delays to ITD.

- McGahan inquired about the 4-way stop at Blaine/Third Streets. Belknap said the warrant analysis is being conducted and a delay study has also been completed at the Hayes/Third Street intersection. Council approval is required to install a stop sign without the warrant analysis supporting the need.
- Kyte asked when budget cycle discussions begin so the Commission can remind Council about reimbursement of the Third Street bike lane funds. Belknap said Council already received the Commission's input and Administration is working on a response. Budget work begins in March, followed by a workshop in July and public hearing in August.
- Kyte asked Hopkins (ITD) to send him illustrations showing how the highway realignment will look at the south end of town.
- Hopkins reported that a new signal cabinet is coming for Blaine Street/Troy Road with installation expected next spring.

4. Farmer's Market Table Report – Michael Kyte

The Transportation Commission staffed the City Table at the Farmer's Market on September 21st and solicited public input regarding perceived transportation challenges in Moscow. The public provided a number of comments and suggestions that have been summarized for the Commission's review and discussion.

Kyte said about 15 people provided comments on transportation areas of concerns. Several comments pertained to the desire for renewed transit service between Moscow and Pullman which was previously funded by grants and university matching funds. Johnson's recollection was that support from both universities was discontinued because the anticipated use by students didn't match actual ridership. He added that UI Transportation Services is planning to survey current student needs at both universities and perhaps conduct a test run in December. Sanders asked if the upcoming census might qualify the combined metro area for NPO designation and grant funding. Belknap replied that the population qualifies but the historical barrier has been the amount of undeveloped land between the cities, and also a concern about how NPO designation might affect existing funding to current transit systems in both cities.

REPORTS

Belknap provided an update on City development projects:

- EMSI has begun construction on the north end of the St. John Hardware property; parking and street improvements on the south end will begin after St. John moves to their new location. The City is participating in replacement of the CMP for Hogg Creek to upgrade from 42" to 60" which will increase the capacity by about three times. The County will be announcing a public hearing to consider tax relief similar to what was extended for the NRS expansion. Hopkins will check on the need for a traffic impact study and whether the existing approach on Jackson will be allowed to remain.
- The Moscow Urban Renewal Agency received an update on Rusty Olps's proposal for the 6th and Jackson property. Plans have been modified from five stories to three and the total number of living units reduced to 18. Exterior finishes have also changed from white stucco to a more traditional look that includes brick. Existing accesses remain on both Sixth and Jackson Streets.

- The owner of Ridgeview Second Addition is working on a traffic study at Highway 8. Construction documents are being prepared with underground utilities and street construction potentially beginning after the 2020 harvest. Kyte asked about Mountain View/Highway 8 counts and Hopkins said the last time it was checked it didn't warrant a traffic light but was close. Cook asked if Highway 8 density was approaching the level to warrant reconsideration of the speed limit. Hopkins said ITD has full authority to change speed limits and anyone can request a review.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

None.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next scheduled meeting is November 14, 2019. Commission Members must submit agenda items directly to the chair by Wednesday, November 6, 2019.

ADJOURNED: 5:00pm



Michael Kyte, Chair