

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Michael Kyte
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes~
November 14, 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 4:11 pm.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ben Calabretta

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Belknap, Scott Bontrager, Nate Suhr, Jared Hopkins (ITD), Caylee Birge

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Transportation Commission Minutes from October 10, 2019 (Action Item)

Cook moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Meyer. Motion carried with DuPree abstaining.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Commission Communications

- Cook said in his observation about 10% of drivers are not complying with the HAWK signal at Mountain View and Third Streets. He recommended greater police presence and perhaps additional community education efforts. He added that it would be interesting to know signal use counts.
- Cook asked about improvements on the east-west section of Mountain View Road in anticipation of Logos School traffic. Belknap said some improvements would occur in conjunction with the school construction. He will obtain more details and timeframes to share at the next meeting.
- Cook asked if Administration had provided a response yet regarding the Third Street bike lanes. Belknap said no.
- Hamilton relayed discussion from a recent Planning & Zoning discussion regarding some cities painting their bike lanes green for better visibility.
- Hopkins shared that ITD will be creating an inventory of aged signal heads and back plates. ITD will provide the equipment and City staff will make the repairs.
- Meyer and McGahan reported to Hopkins that the timing needs to be checked on the light at Perimeter Dr/Farm Road and Highway 8.

4. Transportation Safety Improvement Grant Programs Overview (Action Item) – Nate Suhr

Staff will provide an overview of the various safety improvement grant programs, eligibility requirements, and Staff's annual accident history review process to identify potential eligible safety improvements.

Suhr provided an overview of the recurring grants available from TAP and ITD. Moscow hasn't been competitive for Federal Aid Bridge Grants because existing sufficiency ratings are too high. The Transportation Alternatives Program has provided some matching grants for underpasses and bicycle/pedestrian routes. The Local Highway Safety Improvement Grant allocates 40% of its funding to local jurisdictions and the top five most populous cities in each district are always eligible so Moscow has been very well funded from that source. Suhr showed 5-year crash site data where a fatality or disabling injury occurred. Kyte asked if staff have determined any road safety issues from the crash data that would qualify the City for safety grants. Suhr said yes, and gave the example of the number of drive-off accidents on Polk Street. The City was able to obtain a grant to culvert the creek and install a sidewalk, so now if people go off the roadway the accident will at least be less severe.

5. D Street and Main Street Intersection Study and Preliminary Turn Lane Design (Action Item) – Scott Bontrager (Nate Suhr presented for him)

Staff will provide a report on the recent intersection traffic study of the intersection of D Street and Main Street to assess the potential installation of an eastbound left turn lane at the intersection.

The current delay situation is ranked as a "D" level of service during commute hours, which does not meet the threshold of "unacceptable." Common crashes are side-swipes and rear-ends so a proposed left turn lane would help alleviate those incidents. ITD is supportive and is interested in seeing how the new EMSI building occupancy will impact travel volumes in that area. The intersection will continue to be monitored.

6. Request for Letter of Support for the South Main Pedestrian Underpass Project (Action Item) – Bill Belknap

Staff is seeking Commission authorization to provide a letter of support for the City's proposed Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) South Main pedestrian/bicycle pathway underpass project. Staff will provide a brief overview of the proposed project.

Belknap said project design is anticipated to occur in 2022 and construction in 2023. Current estimated total cost is just over \$1 Million, with half targeted from local match funds from the City and the Moscow Urban Renewal Agency. Cook moved that the Transportation Commission provide letter of support to City for the South Main Pedestrian underpass project. Dupree seconded the motion which carried unanimously by acclamation. Kyte encouraged continued discussion between the City and ITD regarding crosswalks impacted by this project.

REPORTS

1. Future Commission Agenda Planning – Michael Kyte

Kyte distributed a draft list of upcoming meeting agenda items for the Commission's review. Cook asked if City Code would need to be amended regarding e-bike use on pedestrian pathways. Belknap said that topic is on the agenda for the December meeting. Belknap said this planning document helps staff be prepared with the necessary research and data for Commission discussion.

DuPree asked about bikes on downtown sidewalks and Belknap said to date there has been a voluntary dismount "policy" but the Commission could certainly discuss again.

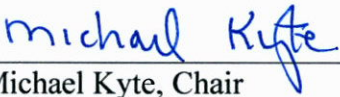
CONTINUING EDUCATION

Kyte distributed information about the Commission duties and asked whether the group wanted to revisit the list of ex-officio members. Cook noted that he felt it as important to recognize the importance of the ex-officio entities and did not feel that it hurt to have them included in the City Code even if they do not take advantage to their opportunity to be present at the meetings. Kyte asked the group to give the topic some thought and the Commission will review the subject in January.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

The next scheduled meeting is December 12, 2019. Commission Members must submit agenda items directly to the chair by Wednesday, December 4, 2019.

ADJOURNED: 5:10 pm



Michael Kyte, Chair