

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Michael Kyte
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes~
March 12, 2020

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: Ben Calabretta, Interim Chair; Phil Cook, Mary DuPree, Joel Hamilton, Brian Johnson, Mike McGahan, Bob Sanders

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Kyte, Don Meyer

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Belknap, Sandra Kelly (for Brandy Sullivan), Anne Peterson

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Transportation Commission Minutes from February 13, 2020 (Action Item)

Hamilton moved approval of the minutes as amended, seconded by Johnson. Motion carried by acclamation with DuPree and Sanders abstaining.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Commission Communications

- The A Street project has begun with tree removal and advance utility work. The street will close completely after UI Commencement and remain closed for the duration of the project.
- City has received notification that it was not awarded the LSIP grant for the round-about at A & Baker.
- TAAP awards will be announced tomorrow.

4. Review of the Transportation Commission's Role, Responsibilities and Membership (Action Item) – Michael Kyte

In Kyte's absence, Belknap shared Kyte's recommended changes to Commission membership as follows: elimination of all ex-officio members except the Region 2 ITD representative the local transit provider, and and student positions, and designate one of the nine voting members to be filled by a representative of the University of Idaho. Belknap said he was comfortable with the proposed changes and DuPree moved approval of the recommendations, seconded by Johnson. Cook thought the current ex-officio members should be notified of this proposed change. Belknap said they could all be invited to the meeting when the code amendment is reviewed by this Commission, prior to formal public hearing by City Council. Hamilton thought it was important to maintain the connection between this Commission and the Planning & Zoning Commission and Cook thought the same about the Pathways Commission. Belknap said Commissions can and should work together where they overlap without requiring ex-officio designations. He thought membership on this Commission should focus on external organizations who need to be part of the City conversation. DuPree's motion carried unanimously.

5. Sign Warrant Analysis for Hayes and Third and Blaine and Third Intersections (Action Item) – Bill Belknap

During the project planning process related to the installation of the vehicular bridge on Third Street, installation of four-way stop control at the intersections of Third and Blaine and Third and Hayes were proposed as part of the Third Street traffic calming measures in anticipation of increased vehicular traffic on East Third Street. In response to recent discussions regarding whether to install the four-way stop controls even without the vehicular bridge installation, Engineering Staff conducted a warrant analysis study in the fall of 2019 to determine if the existing traffic conditions warranted installation of four-way stop controls at the intersections of Third and Blaine and Third and Hayes. Staff will provide a report on the warrant analysis for the Commission's review.

Belknap asked the Commission if, after having time to consider last month's conversation, they had any further questions or concerns. Sanders suggested that, absent a 4-way stop at Third and Hayes, something should be done to keep eastbound Third Street traffic in their own lane rather than the middle of the road. Belknap said a short center line could probably be painted within that block. Cook and Hamilton felt strongly that the warrant analyses should be repeated in a few years to see if traffic patterns and volumes have changed. Johnson moved endorsement of the conclusions as presented, seconded by DuPree. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Streets Standard Review (Action Item) – Bill Belknap

During the most recent update to the City Standard Construction Drawings containing the adopted street standards for the construction and development of new public and private streets within the City, the use of a 28-foot residential street standard was limited to use in cul-de-sacs and one- to two-block unextendable streets. The Planning and Zoning Commission is currently working on the development of new subdivision standards which include clustered and traditional development options to provide greater flexibility, allowing compact and innovative developments that would likely benefit from the 28-foot street standard. Narrower streets reduce current and future maintenance and replacement costs, provide traffic calming in residential areas, and facilitate the development of more cohesive neighborhoods. Staff would like to discuss the current limitation and potential modifications to the Standard Construction Drawings.

Belknap presented operational and cost-saving benefits to the City of narrower streets, noting it would also reduce housing costs because construction of public improvements is a significant portion of subdivision development costs. The recommendation is to broaden the allowed use of the 28-foot street standard. Johnson thought the nature of residential development should be taken into consideration, e.g. a neighborhood of multifamily housing would probably need more parking than one side of the street would provide. He also thought collector streets should not be narrowed. Commissioners decided to table the recommendation for further discussion at a future meeting. DuPree requested historical information on how the Tree Commission established the current tree lawn standards.

7. Smart Transit Proposed New Third Route – Dan Gray/Ben Aiman

Smart Transit is currently seeking funding to establish a third fixed route in Moscow to expand service within the community. Smart Transit Executive Director Dan Gray and his newly appointed successor Ben Aiman will provide a report to the Commission.

Gray and Aiman provided ridership data showing increases since service hours were expanded, and illustrations of the new route in south and east Moscow. Gray said Smart Transit considers it important to maintain the 30-minute headway because any longer between routes exceeds the convenience factor. Gray hopes to hear within a month on the funding request to ITD that will make the third route possible.

REPORTS

• Sustainable Commission Report – Mary DuPree

DuPree said the Climate Action Working Group (SEC subcommittee) plans to meet April 22 at 5:30 to gather public input on their draft Climate Action Plan. Their ultimate goal is for the City Council to pledge that the City will aim to be powered by 100% clean energy by 2045.

- **Moscow Pathways Commission Bike to Work Event – Margaret Dibble**

Dibble said the Pathways Commission has sponsored this event for ten years. They envision expanding it to a “Moscow Bike Week” and requested the Transportation Commission’s support in growing the event. The Safe Routes to School group is also changing their “Fill the Racks” day to “Bike to School Week” in hopes it will help people develop stronger biking habits. Dibble sets up an informational station at Sixth & Main Streets; Commission members agreed to host a second station at the bike facility near City Hall. Belknap committed the City’s help by providing social media outreach and refreshments.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

None.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

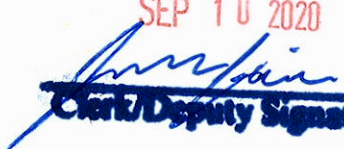
The next scheduled meeting is April 9, 2020. Commission members should submit agenda items directly to the chair by Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM

Chair

Minutes Approved On

SEP 10 2020


Clerk/Deputy Signature