

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Phil Cook
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes~
November 12, 2020

Bill Belknap
Staff Liaison

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

Cook called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Phil Cook (virtual), Chair; Erin Bacon (virtual), Randy Baukol (virtual), Ben Calabretta (virtual), Mary DuPree (virtual), Mike McGahan, Joel Hamilton (virtual), Brian Johnson (virtual), Bob Sanders (virtual)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Belknap, Jennifer Fleischman, Brandy Sullivan (virtual)

1. Approval of Minutes from October 8, 2020 (ACTION ITEM)

McGahan moved for approval of the minutes as written, seconded by Sanders. Vote by Acclamation: Ayes: Seven (7). Nays: None. Abstentions: One (Johnson). Motion carried.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Commission Communications

- Seventh St and Elm St has opened and the east side of University of Idaho Administration building currently has a different traffic pattern.
- A Street Project is nearing completion and now open to the public.
- A Street, in front of Barley Flats, has been widened to add a left turn bay.
- D and Main St new signal light has been purchased and is pending delivery and installation.
- Proposed Transportation Commission City Code changes were presented to Administration Committee and will be sent on to City Council next.

4. Continued Discussion Regarding E-Bike and E-Scooter Policy Development (ACTION ITEM) – Bill Belknap

Last winter, the Commission conducted a review of the relevant State of Idaho and City statutes and regulations pertaining to electric assist bicycle and electric scooters in light of the recent increase in use of these devices within the community. Staff was provided general direction to explore the development of amendments to City Code to address the appropriate use of these mobility devices within the City. Given the length of time that has passed as well as new membership on the Commission, Staff will provide a summary of the prior discussion and draft amendments for initial review and Commission consideration.

Belknap presented an overview of the E-Bike and E-Scooter policy that was previously discussed by the Commission. Idaho Code, Moscow Pathways Commission's recommendation, and City of Boise's code were recapped for new Commission members and as a refresher for others. Some concern was brought to the attention of the Commission that E-Bike's and E-Scooter's continue to evolve and may surpass speed limitations. General consensus was that City of Boise's code was excessive and that Idaho Code covers many limitations already. Belknap finished his presentation with some suggested elements to be addressed in specific with any code or policy developed.

There is not currently a speed limitation set for regular bicycles utilizing pathways and pedestrian sidewalks, however some pathways have recommended speed signs. Discussion regarding establishing speed limitations for bicycles and electric assisted devices, as well as how it would be posted and enforced. City of Boise code made it unlawful to move from a sidewalk to a roadway when it would cause imminent danger, but the Idaho State Code may already have it in the over-arching code. Some Commissioners are in favor of having different speed limitations set for pathways and for sidewalks. It was voiced the possibility of even allowing E-Bikes and E-Scooters on the pedestrian pathways. Discussion about the difference between E-bikes and gas-powered bikes and how to possibly address that in the proposed code. Conversation tabled until more research is done.

5. Proposed Streets Chapter Discussion (ACTION ITEM) – Bill Belknap

Currently, City Code requirements and standards pertaining to public roadways are scattered within a number of different sections of the City Code. Additionally, the City currently does not have codified standards for a number of items such as street access, street naming, property addressing, or encroachments within the public right-of-way. Finally, the City is also in the process of updating the City's subdivision code, which will include a new definition of subdivision which will exclude individual lot development and which the City has historically relied upon to address the requirement to make street improvements were necessary in individual lot developments. Staff is proposing to create a new streets chapter within the City Code to incorporate these elements. Staff will provide an overview of the proposed chapter.

Belknap reviewed the item as written above and presented a preliminary version of a new Streets code chapter for Commission perusal, compiled from current code standards spread throughout the entirety of City Code.

The new Streets Chapter would encompass public improvements for in-fill lots that would no longer be written into the Subdivision Code Chapter. Commission accepts Staff's recommendation to proceed. Hamilton brought up a request to consider one-way street standards in the new Street Code.

Upcoming Events/Meetings

The next scheduled meeting is December 10, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM

Minutes Approved On

Phil Cook, Chair

JAN 14 2021

Clerk/Deputy Signature