

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Michael Kyte
Commission Chair

~Regular Meeting Minutes

Les MacDonald
Staff Liaison

trans@ci.moscow.id.us

208.883.7028

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

**Thursday
March 14, 2019**

4:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. 3rd Street**

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

Present: Chair; Michael Kyte, Phil Cook, Ben Calabretta, Brian Johnson, Bob Sanders, Joel Hamilton, Mike McGahan

Absent: Les MacDonald, Public Works Director, Vice Chair Don Meyer, Bill Belknap, Community Development Director, Mary DuPree.

Staff: Anne Zabala, Council Liaison
Jared Hopkins - ITD
Kevin Lilly, City Engineer
Tyler Palmer, Acting Public Works Director
Sandra Collins, Administrative Assistant / Deputy City Clerk

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Transportation Commission Minutes from February 14, 2019 (Action Item)

Cook moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Calabretta. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Cook, Calabretta, Johnson, Hamilton. Nays: None. Abstained: Sanders, McGahan, Kyte. Minutes approved.

2. Recommendation For the Western Terminus of the Third Street Two-Way Bike Facility (Palmer/Kyte) (Action Item)

Kyte reviewed his presentation on the Third Street two-way separated bike lanes. He gave the Commission a handout outlining action points during the planning process and discussed his preference for the bike lanes to end at Washington, not Jefferson. Palmer gave a summary on the two options. There was discussion about ending the separated bike lane at Washington even if Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) did not grant a vacation of their turn lane. Several Commission Members said ending the two-way bike lane at Washington would be better for the less confident cyclists as they could dismount and cross using the crosswalk. Kyte asked Jared Hopkins what ITD's initial reaction was to the turn lane request. Hopkins said that the permitting board had a preliminary discussion and the consensus was ITD did not want to lose the lane on Washington. Hopkins felt there were other ways to get across Washington for cyclists who were not confident, such as dismounting and crossing or moving parking. Palmer said City Council approved Option 1, which included the ITD turn lane onto Washington. However, if ITD denies that request,

Council's other option was to end the bike lane at Jefferson. The Commission could also offer another alternative. Kyte asked Council Member Anne Zabala her opinion and she said she would be supportive of the terminus at Washington without the turn lane. Palmer pointed out there were some problems to solve with this scenario, as cyclists crossing Washington and continuing onto Third Street would have to merge into traffic and contend with turning vehicles. Lilly asked if moving the bike box would help with that problem. Kyte said if the Commission preferred the terminus to be at Washington, without the ITD turn lane, perhaps staff could look into that.

Calabretta moved to make a recommendation to City Council that the two-way separated bike lanes be terminated at Washington Street, even if ITD does not grant vacation of the turn lane, seconded by Sanders.

Roll Call Vote: Unanimous.

Kyte will draft a letter to council via staff. Cook said he felt the turn lane was an important issue that would benefit citizens and would like to see City Administration and Council get involved with the lane request from ITD.

3. Selection of Dates for Commission Staffing of Farmer's Market Table (Kyte) (Action Item)

Palmer suggested a later date in August or early September, once students were back. The tabling could also incorporate information on the bike lanes, pedestrian bridge and e-bikes. Kyte asked the Commission for some dates they would be available. They proposed either September 7 or 14, 2019.

4. Commission's Future Project Priority Survey Results Review and Discussion (Kyte) (Action Item)

Kyte reviewed the project priority list he had given the Commission in the form of a survey, including the ranking.

He asked the Commission for input on these project ideas. There was discussion that included:

- Being proactive with new developments instead of reactive and ways to do that
- Micro-mobility
- Parking in Moscow

Citizen David Hall asked if the Commission would be willing to get involved with the Identity Apartment parking problems. Sanders asked if the Transportation Commission could join with the Planning & Zoning (P & Z) Commission to discuss parking and brainstorm ideas. There was discussion about the current building code related to parking spaces. Cook said a joint discussion about parking, future car ownership and parking fees would be beneficial. Palmer felt that e-bikes and e-scooters would play a larger part in the future. Johnson said the Commission should pick no more than three projects to focus on. He reported that car use on campus has been increasing and parking was still a problem. There was discussion about the reasons students bring cars to Moscow including Moscow's rural location. Sanders asked about transit bus stops in front of Identity. There was discussion about updating the mobility plan. Zabala said City Council frequently discusses downtown parking. The Commission discussed a parking survey to assess the issue.

REPORTS

1. General Reports & Communications from Commission Members

Cook said the e-bike bill passed senate and is on the Governor's desk. The bill says e-bikes should be treated the same as regular bicycles. However, local jurisdictions can decide on their own restrictions, for example, whether to allow e-bikes on pathways. Hopkins said Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Engineer Dave Kuisti has been promoted to Division Administrator of Products and Plans and will be moving to Boise. In the meantime, rotating staff will act as the District Engineer until one is selected for the position. Ken-Helm from ITD will give a Thorn-Creek Project update to the Commission once he has had surgery. David Hall asked about the status of the grant for the electric charging station.

2. Safety and Walkability Workshop, May 6 & 7, 2019 (Palmer)

Palmer reviewed the Looking Glass Academy workshop on walkability and pedestrian safety being held in May at the 1912 Center.

3. Gotcha Bike Share Program Update (Palmer)

The Bike Share Agreement has been signed by Gotcha and is with the City Mayor. The mobilization date has been moved to August 20th, 2019, which gives the University, City and Gotcha time to work on some informational literature for users.

4. Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Long Range Transportation Plan (Kyte)

Kyte said ITD is in the process of finalizing their public outreach on their long-range plans and Hopkins said there is an upcoming meeting in Lewiston. Public comments on the plan can be made through ITD's website and are due by April 10, 2019. Hopkins said there is discussion of a new interstate running north and south through Nevada.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

1. Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC) (Kyte)

Kyte gave the Commission an informational handout about LHTAC.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. US 95 Project Update (Ken Helm - Idaho Transportation Department)

AJOURNED: 5:45 pm.

NOTICE: Moscow City Council and committee meetings are televised, videotaped and/or recorded. Individuals attending the meeting who require special assistance to accommodate physical, hearing, or other impairments, please contact the City Clerk, at (208) 883-7015 or TDD 883-7019, as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made.