



MINUTES
KEIZER TRAFFIC SAFETY/BIKEWAYS/PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 16, 2023
Keizer City Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present:

Jamie Davis, Chair
Tammy Saldivar, Vice Chair
David Dempster
Hersch Sangster
Michael De Blasi
Rick Kuehn
Brenda Lamb

Council Liaison/Staff Present:

Cathy Clark, Mayor
Mike Griffin, Storm Ops & Streets
Trevor Wenning, Police Liaison
Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder

Council Liaison/Staff Absent:

Councilor Robert Husseman

Absent:

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Hersch Sangster moved for approval of the October 2023 Minutes. David Dempster seconded. Motion passed as follows: Davis, Dempster, Sangster, DeBlasi, Saldivar, Lamb, and Kuehn in favor.

a. Minutes of the October 19th Meeting.

3. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS *Sharon Johnston*, Keizer, reported on there being a traffic issue on Meadowlark Drive and 14th. She said that these streets are unsafe, and there are a lot of cars speeding. She clarified that there are speeders on all straight distance between 14th and McCleod. Chair Davis asked Lieutenant Wenning to monitor the traffic to determine what may need to be done by Public Works. Hersch Sangster suggested that she share this with the Gubser Neighborhood Association because neighborhood associations bring a louder and bigger voice to these issues.

Mayor Clark asked Mr. Griffin about bringing the no parking away from the intersection at Meadowlark Drive. Mr. Griffin said that he doesn't think specifically calling out Meadowlark would be fair for all the other streets facing the same issue. Lieutenant Wenning spoke about a State Statute regarding the parking and unmarked crosswalks. In order to yellow-stripe all

intersections would be a financial burden to maintain. He will conduct a speed survey and ask the traffic team to monitor the speeding issue. He will bring back the speed survey at the January meeting. The site clearance issues can be addressed by Code Enforcement.

Carol Doerfler, President of Keizer West Neighborhood Association, requested that they consider lowering the 75% of the responsive survey in the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP). Tammy Saldivar said that she hears her and agrees with her and there is discussion on this. Chair Davis stated that she would not want to see it go under 50%.

Tammy Kunz, Keizer, President of Greater Northeast Neighborhood Association, requested that the neighborhood associations be part of the process when the NTMP is discussed in the Work Session. She asked about the flag situation. Brenda Lamb is just now working on it. Her goal is to get the flags, even though funding can take two years. Tammy Kunz suggested that a school be responsible for the placement of the signs due to the potential theft issue. Hersch Sangster stated that ODOT Traffic Safety is opposed to this program, and by involving the schools, they have to go through their risk management and purchase insurance.

4. PROJECT SPREADSHEET REVIEW

Mayor Clark stated that the Transportation System Plan (TSP) is in the queue to be updated by ODOT. They're waiting for the updates relative to the Climate Friendly and Community Rules. It will then go to the State for grant funding. Most of the projects in the TSP are still valid. Chair Davis said that they developed a list from the citizens' safety concerns and are prioritizing the list.

Tammy Saldivar spoke on the project list and said the intent was a place to track complaints and make notes for reference. Chair Davis thinks the Project List should be funneled through Dawn Wilson. The Committee discussed the projects and added comments. They would like three worksheets to have statuses of open, completed, and can't address projects.

a. Project List

5. NEW/ OLD BUSINESS

a. Update to Neighborhood Traffic Management Program - Tammy Saldivar

Tammy Saldivar provided an update on the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. She is waiting for answers on questions she's asked before she can make a final review. It will be included in a Council Work Session in January if it's ready. Tammy Saldivar asked questions so she could include answers in the next update. Mayor Clark recommended that in lieu of a suggestion box, people be encouraged to submit public comments to the City Council for the record. The Council could delegate the comment to the various committees if that's where it needs to land. Anonymous

comments are not accepted and resident's name needs to be included. A suggestion box lends to the possibility that someone may leave an anonymous suggestion without including their name. The City is looking at having this be a fillable form on the website. Mayor Clark prefers "resident" instead of "citizen" because a person can be a resident of this community and not necessarily an elector. Tammy Saldivar noted that sidewalks are not a part of this program. David Dempster's commented that a neighborhood Local Improvement District is different from the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. Tammy Saldivar stated that the concerns on the number of persons to sign petitions and the outreach subjects will go to the Council Work Session.

b. Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) Report - Kirck Kuehn & Hersch Sangster

Hersch Sangster said that the City of Turner is doing their Traffic Safety Program, and even though theirs is outdated, they're in line first on the docket. Safe Routes to School program gave a workshop to the Oregon School Board's annual convention so all of the schools would know more about safe routes. The focus was more on walking to school rather than bicycling. ODOT is working with the City of Keizer to improve Verda Lane. An upcoming in-person, open-house would be on December 7th at 4 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center.

Mayor Clark has been forwarding the Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) packets to this Committee to know which projects are in the queue for our region. The SKATS packets also include engagement with transit and Cherriots. Members of SKATS Policy Committee are Salem, Keizer, Turner, Marion County, Polk County, the Salem-Keizer School District, Salem-Keizer mass-transit (Cherriots), and ODOT. There's also a Technical Advisory Committee that has projects, which are managed through the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments and projects are federally funded. Mayor Clark explained the makeup of SKATS and the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The other body that has policy impact is The Areas Commission on Transportation (ACTs), which was created by the Oregon Transportation Commission who oversees ODOT. The 12 ACTs oversees all of Oregon.

c. Discussion to Ask the Fire Department to Update the Policy for Sidewalks that have Driveways ~ Hersch Sangster

The Fire District doesn't have anything to do with sidewalks.

d. Budget Request(s) ~ Hersch Sangster

Hersch Sangster asked for discussion on the list of projects to consider which items should be added to the budget process. Chair Davis asked that this item go to the January meeting.

6. COMMITTEE

David Dempster received approval to buy 96 helmets, which should last

**MEMBER INPUT /
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
REPORTS**

through May,

Hersch Sangster said that he's trying to get a Bike Skills Fair with the schools, and he has been working with the Police Department. He spoke with a couple of schools about it being a possible resource fair to move around the city annually. Keizer Elementary would like to be the host.

Michael DeBlasi reported on the upcoming neighborhood lights by the Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association and watch for people walking. He participated in the Ruby Bridges walk.

Tammy Saldivar reported to the Council, and she heard that the speed signs for Alder would go to the next Council meeting. She also learned a lot when she observed the hearing at the Planning Commission.

Brenda Lamb went with Lieutenant Wenning to find light flashers, and he checked out walking lights and cheap tape to use as reflectors, but didn't find anything cheap enough. Hersch Sangster said that a school has already secured the safety reflectors.

Chair Davis said that this project list will help wrap up the year by reporting to the City Council, and we're seeing a lot of good movement.

7. STAFF REPORT

Mike Griffin reported that the annual storm water cleaning is almost complete for the season. They're preparing street control for the holiday lights parade on Saturday, December 9th from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**8. POLICE LIAISON
REPORT**

Lieutenant Wenning thanked the Committee for allowing him to attend again. The new liaison will attend in January. From the police side, they participated with Mayor Clark and officers to do the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day this week. They love being part of it and are willing to participate in the future.

**9. COUNCIL
LIAISON REPORT**

Mayor Clark reported that the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day was fantastic. Verda Lane Open House would be on December 7th. The torn-up sidewalks and PGE work along River Road is occurring to install fiber to connect all of the traffic signals on River Road. This will improve the responsiveness of adjusting the lights along River Road for safety purposes. The Westside Express Service is looking at another work study for Keizer in order to get everyone from Keizer to Portland.

A Joint Work Session with this Committee is being scheduled.

**10. OTHER
BUSINESS**

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is: January 18th.

Meeting adjourned: 8:14 p.m.

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