



**KEIZER TRAFFIC SAFETY, BIKEWAYS & PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 18, 2021
Keizer City Council Chambers**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair DeBlasi called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Attendance follows:

Present:

Michael DeBlasi, Chair
Wayne Frey, Vice Chair
David Dempster
Rick Kuehn
Hersch Sangster
Jamie Davis

Absent:

Steven Wolf

Council Liaison/Staff Present:

David LeDay, Police
Mike Griffin, Streets & Stormwater
Laura Reid, Councilor
Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Correction made to Minutes. David Dempster moved for approval of the October 2021 Minutes as amended. Hersch Sangster seconded. Motion passed as follows: DeBlasi, Frey, Dempster, Sangster, Davis and Kuehn in favor with Wolf absent.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Laverne Walker, Keizer, urged that traffic be slowed on all streets in Keizer and asked that a pedestrian activated light be placed at the crosswalk on Chemawa in front of the library. She noted that the development on Verda will increase traffic and with pedestrians walking to the library and skate park, the danger will be increased. Committee members noted that they felt there should be one on Lockhaven at McNary High School.

Hersch Sangster moved to recommend to Council the installation of a pedestrian activated light at the crosswalk on Chemawa across from the library and to partner with the School District for one on Lockhaven at Celtic Way. David Dempster seconded. Motion passed as follows: DeBlasi, Frey, Dempster, Sangster, Davis and Kuehn in favor with Wolf absent.

Rick Kuehn urged that staff consider putting one at the Keizer Elementary crossing as well. Wayne Frey noted that Council had asked that the Committee create a list of possible projects that could be used for ARPA funding. Jamie Davis reminded the committee that they had put together a prioritized list of projects and the list of streets that Sgt. LeDay had indicated were high speeding areas should included and the finalized list should go to Council and Mayor Clark.

Carol Doerfler, Keizer, reported that there have been many complaints on social media about speeding traffic and asked that safety projects be completed as soon as possible to protect pedestrians.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT IDENTIFICATION GRANT: Mike Jaffe introduced himself and shared information about the three-year SRTS program including what has been done and what is planned. He noted that the Metropolitan Planning Organization will be providing funding for another 3-4 years so that the program can continue.

ODOT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS: Mike Jaffe shared details of grants that are available and urged committee members to attend available webinars in order to learn more about the grant process, funds, deadlines and evaluation criteria.

SKATS PROJECT SOLICITATION: Mr. Jaffe explained that the SKATS MPO has money and is accepting applications for projects in the Salem-Keizer urban area. He noted that the Council of Governments is made up of planners, not engineers, but if the City came up with a design and cost estimate, COG could work with the Public Works Director and provide feedback and assistance with the part of the grant application focusing on the benefits in order to get the best score possible. He added that projects should either be in the Transportation System Plan or consistent with it.

Discussion followed regarding improvements needed around Kennedy Elementary School, the cost of pedestrian activated crossing lights, the importance of having a project in the TSP, and projects being consistent with policies. Committee members agreed by consensus that they wanted to consider pursuing a grant for (1) Kennedy Elementary School area needs and (2) Windsor Island Road sidewalk connectivity between Lockhaven and Chemawa. Chair DeBlasi indicated that he would relay this information to Public Works Director, Bill Lawyer.

TSP GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES DISCUSSION: Postponed to January.

BLUE LIGHT DETECTION FOR CYCLISTS: Mike DeBlasi reviewed difficulties encountered by cyclists while waiting at signal lights that are controlled by sensors and asked if the committee wanted to pursue requesting that these blue light detection devices be installed at some of Keizer's intersections. He asked the committee to explore the website on the agenda and see what they think about this opportunity. Hersch Sangster noted that if they were installed it should only be at places that have on-street bike paths.

DECEMBER MEETING: Committee agreed by consensus to cancel the December meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Planning Commission did not meet in November. No report.

COMMITTEE MEMBER INPUT:

David Dempster reported that he had checked out areas complained about at the last meeting – specifically the sidewalk in the Lockhaven/Verda area – and turned in complaints to Code Enforcement. Since then many of the problems have been

remedied. He urged everyone to use this method to get repairs done. He also noted that many people have been complaining about speeding traffic but sometimes this is only a matter of perception.

Mike DeBlasi reported that he has a flashing speed limit sign on his street and it works, but this means that the street has been designed to allow speeding. He suggested that in the future streets be designed so that they encourage slower traffic.

Hersch Sangster reported that after the holidays he will be working with McRae Carmichael on doing a bike skills fair and helmet giveaway with the Keizer Police possibly during the week of the Iris Festival. He suggested that the committee do some small group rides and some bike repair nights and promote bicycle safety. He urged that perhaps the committee could partner with a group at McNary to encourage youth participation.

Wayne Frey urged the committee to focus on the Safe Routes to School, Safe Routes to Parks and Oregon Community Pathways grants.

STAFF REPORT: Mike Griffin reported that staff has been busy clearing leaves off catch basins and areas that need work have been identified. He thanked residents who clear the leaves from catch basins in front of their homes.

POLICE REPORT: Sgt. LeDay reported that December 11 is the Festival of Lights Parade and November 27 is Thanksgiving and Civil War weekend. He noted that Thanksgiving is the most deadly weekend for fatalities nationwide and that multiple agencies will be showing high visibility for enforcement, working overtime looking for DUI drivers. He also reminded everyone to wear reflective clothing in order to be more visible at night.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: Councilor Reid thanked committee members for reporting to Council.

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Commission/Council Report: Hersch Sangster will report to Council on December 6 and monitor the December 1 Planning Commission meeting.

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting ~ January 20, 2022, 6 p.m.

Minutes Approved: 01-20-22