

June 10, 2014
5:30 P.M.
Newport, Oregon

The City of Newport Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee met on the above date in Conference Room A of the Newport City Hall. In attendance were Alisha Kern, Chuck Forinash, Marsha Eckelman, Susan Hogg, Maryann Bozza, and Amanda Capri. Staff in attendance was Peggy Hawker, City Recorder/Special Projects Director.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - MAY 13, 2014

MOTION was made by Hogg, seconded by Bozza to accept the minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2014. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

REVIEW OLD AND BEGIN SETTING NEW PROJECTS

It was suggested that the grant for the northern section of the Oceanview Drive path be revived. It was further suggested that the project be broken into sections to identify what is needed in each section. Suggested sections included Nye Street from 20th through 12th Streets; from Georgy's to Yaquina Bay State Park. A discussion ensued regarding on-street parking; why sidewalks were not installed with the previous utility work; and the staff information that it is not necessary to restrict parking to one side of the street. It was recommended that Council be asked to direct staff to provide parameters for this project. It was noted that there are no crosswalks on Elizabeth Street. It was suggested that if utility poles are a problem, staff could obtain the cost for installing a planting strip and relocating the poles.

A discussion ensued regarding sharrows and where they should go. It was noted that 24 sharrows should cover the area between Don Davis Park to the Yaquina Bay State Park. It was recommended that the sharrows be installed by July 15 to accommodate the major bike travel season. MOTION was made by Forinash, seconded by Bozza, to recommend to the City Council that it consider having staff place sharrows from Don Davis Park to Yaquina Bay State Park in a timely fashion. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

It was suggested that the request to the Mayor and Council be made in writing, and that it include a thank you for supporting projects in the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

Hogg asked whether there has been feedback regarding the usefulness of sharrows. Bozza noted that sharrows are included as industry best practices for certain kinds of streets. Capri added that sharrows draw the attention of drivers.

A discussion ensued regarding the possibility of a survey of cyclists, including the bicyclist's impression of Newport and whether it is bike friendly. It was suggested that the

survey could be placed near the “bicycle on bridge” button near the bridge. Also suggested was the possibility of a small sign containing a QR code that accesses the survey. A discussion ensued regarding permits required to place a survey by the bridge “button.” It was agreed to bring potential survey questions to the next meeting.

It was noted that there are three overlapping projects: (1) review each project in the Oceanview Drive grant; (2) signs for crosswalks on Elizabeth Street; and (3) review the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan to determine what still needs to be done.

The Committee asked that each receive a copy of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan, and a smaller (11” x 17”) version of the maps, and agreed to begin reviewing the plan starting with Oceanview Drive.

A discussion ensued regarding bulbouts and their uses. Capri suggested that bulbouts could be useful near schools; the hospital; and other trouble areas. It was noted that bulbouts at 9th and 11th Streets at Abbey Street would improve visibility for pedestrians. It was agreed to meet at 9th and Abbey Streets, at 5:00 P.M., before the next meeting on July 8, 2014, to walk the area and become familiar with it.

A discussion ensued regarding the role of the Committee in promoting alternate transportation. It was noted that the bus is not being promoted as well as possible. Forinash suggested placing bus schedules in the plastic holders that formerly held the PAC schedules. Bozza mentioned that there is not great connectivity with the Valley bus, and that the loop bus schedule is difficult. It was suggested that all buses need to meet in the middle of the city.

It was agreed to discuss the Committee mission statement at the next meeting.

It was asked when the painting of the crosswalks is to be complete.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 P.M.