



Department of
Land Use & Transportation



Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 21, 2021

Members Present:

Ray Eck	Daniel Hauser	Mary Manseau
Linda Feldhan	Melissa Laird	Dick Steinbrugge
Kimberly Goddard-Kropf	Michele Limas	Joe Wisniewski

Members Absent:

Bhaskar Aluru

County Staff Present:

Aaron Clodfelter	Sherri McFall	Todd Watkins
Melissa De Lyser	Deana Ortez	
Reza Farhoodi	Shelley Oylear	

Guests:

No Guests

1. Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Chair Eck opened the meeting at 3:46 p.m. and welcomed members and other attendees. He invited URMDAC members and staff to introduce themselves.

Member Manseau asked that the dates of the online open house be added to the minutes.

Member Manseau moved to approve the July 2021 minutes. Member Laird seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Guest Comments

There were no guests present.

3. Additional Pedestrian and Biking Improvement Opportunities

Sherri indicated that there are improvements being constructed within the URMD by other jurisdictions.

Sherri shared that North Bethany County Service District for Roads (NBCSDR) wants to allocate funding toward design and construction of potential improvements on Kaiser Road between Springville Road and Sato School. The in-house pedestrian and biking improvement committee is working on a proposal for Director Roberts to present to NBCSDR. The focus is on connecting the various developments to each other and to Sato Elementary via various pedestrian safety

improvements. These may include widened road shoulders, pedestrian paths, sidewalks, and pedestrian crossings.

Reza shared that ODOT is considering improvements on Farmington and 195th. These improvements will be funded through the State Improvement Transportation Plan (STIP) and bundled with some others along TV Hwy and Hwy 219, with planned construction in 2023. He described the improvements under possible consideration: a pedestrian crossing at 195th, sidewalk along the north side of the road to connect the transit stops, sidewalk infills between 195th and 196th, a pedestrian crossing at 179th, and sidewalk infills at 176th. Sherri noted that improvements at this location would enhance candidate 700, if selected (sidewalk on 195th from Keena to Farmington).

Chair Eck asked whether Farmington will be transferred to Washington County. Reza explained that the county is looking at submitting a grant application to the state to look at long-term implications for Farmington and eventually building a framework to transfer ownership from ODOT to Washington County, as is indicated in the Transportation System Plan.

Member Hauser expressed extreme support for any improvements done along that stretch of Farmington Road between 209th and Kinnaman.

Member Manseau asked if URMDAC will be asked for feedback regarding these improvements. Sherri will research and report back to the committee.

Member Feldhan asked if the improvements will be made only along Farmington or if Kinnaman will be included. Reza replied that these improvements are only for Farmington.

Reza asked whether, since there is some question about how much funding we'll get from ODOT for these improvements, a letter of support for funding from URMDAC would help. Sherri replied that it would and indicated that she will draft a letter for Ray and Melissa to review. Reza will research to whom the letter should be addressed. Member Manseau moved to approve the sending of a letter of support for Farmington improvements from URMDAC to ODOT. Member Hauser seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Review 2021 URMD Pedestrian and Biking Improvements Public Comments

Chair Eck opened discussion about this topic. Sherri reminded the group that this discussion is intended to inform URMDAC's ranking of the candidates.

Member Manseau indicated that she looked at the comments sorted by ZIP code and found the bulk of responses coming from 97229, north of 26 with the exception of Oak Hills. She recommended having URMDAC discuss each project individually.

Member Steinbrugge noted the extensive volume of comments from a single area and asked how much weight they should be given. Member Manseau replied that she believes the selections should not be based on the volume of comments received, as that does not necessarily mean that's where they are the most needed.

Member Laird noted that some commenters copied and pasted the same comment across all candidates. She shared that certain other comments stood out for their support for an candidate but in a different location, for example candidate 682 (pedestrian crossing at 84th & Garden Home). She asked if the location assessments for the candidates had taken other nearby locations into consideration, and if there were reasons the improvements were recommended as they are. Shelley explained that there may be several locations that would benefit from improvements, but there

were limited funds for preliminary analysis; therefore staff needed to focus and filter which locations would be the best candidates, using a number of factors such as existing infrastructure and connections. Choosing these improvements would not preclude other locations from being a proposed improvement in the future.

Melissa commented that MSTIP projects are typically selected by geographic equity by commissioner district. She shared that engaging with historically underrepresented communities is important and that we need to consider the language and wording used in outreach, as words like candidate and arterial mean very different things in Spanish, for example.

Member Eck noted that almost all the commenters have a college degree and few commenting who didn't hold a college degree.

Member Hauser asked for the demographic data file to determine their statistics. Sherri will send it to him. He will return the statistics for Sherri to share with all URMDAC members.

Member Manseau had the following questions about candidates:

- 206 (Huntington sidewalks) – whether it is possible to implement no-parking zones on Huntington soon, whether selected for improvements or not. Shelley explained that would be considered during the design process, and that if selected it would be assessed for traffic calming measures as part of the Neighborhood Streets Program. She further indicated that if parking were to be restricted it would likely only be nearest the intersections as higher traffic speeds frequently result when parking is removed from a residential street. She stated that if it is selected, we would recommend assessing the traffic calming measures provided in the Neighborhood Streets Program.
- 626a (Sandra Lane pedestrian crossing) – whether the proposed site is better than other possible sites along 185th and whether Ewen is a good alternate site to consider. Shelley explained that transit, housing, traffic signal spacing were factored into choosing the location at Sandra. She also shared that Ewen could be considered instead of Sandra, if there was compelling data supporting it. Member Manseau requested that URMDAC be given the bus usage data along that corridor. Shelley will provide it to Sherri to send to the members.
- 676 & 678 (Mitchell pedestrian crossings) – whether fully signalized intersections could be implemented at either or both locations Bethany/Mitchell and Kaiser/Mitchell. There seems to be angst in the community about crossing at those locations. Shelley responded that neither meets the requirements for full signalization.
- 684 (Beef Bend pedestrian crossing) – whether King City or Tualatin Tigard School District is willing to partner on this candidate, as it shares jurisdictional boundaries. Member Limas explained that there is a current effort to build community engagement in that area. Shelley explained that both jurisdictions support the county's identification of the crossing location, though they are not able to contribute to funding at this time. Students and families cross at that spot to get to the sidewalks on the south side of the road, though it's not a formal Safe Route to Schools route. King City Police have identified that as a site of concern. It is also an improvement that could be done much sooner and more affordably than installing sidewalks on the north side of the road.

Member Steinbrugge commented that several candidates held the highest equity score of 6 and asked why they were not on the staff-recommended 150% candidate list. Sherri responded that

there were several reasons the recommendations centered on pedestrian crossings, including leveraging existing or upcoming investments in the area, geographic equity to a degree, and the recent analyses of the pedestrian crossings.

Commissioner Treece shared that she has received comments from constituents about Kaiser/147th and Bethany/Mitchell.

Members agreed to rank all 18 candidates on the 150% list.

5. Member Roundtable

Member Manseau highlighted that the open house comments reveal low engagement from historically underrepresented communities. She reminded that several terms are ending this year which opens up opportunities for more inclusive community representation on URMDAC. She also suggested that a question be added to the demographic survey asking whether the commenter uses public transit.

Member Laird asked whether we would resume meeting in person soon. Todd shared that certain things are still in transition and the goal is to get back to pre-pandemic behaviors and meeting in person in September.

Commissioner Treece agreed with Todd's comments about the goal being September, however, cautioned that with a lower than expected vaccination rate around the county, and with many individuals being unable to get vaccinated, and with Covid-19 variant levels raising, nothing has been confirmed. She also shared she would be absent in August and Megan would attend for her.

6. Meeting Wrap Up

URMDAC members agreed to meet in August to continue the discussion about candidates. After the August meeting, members will rank their candidates a second time and send to Sherri to develop a final weighted list for review, debate and voting at the September meeting.

A timeline for questions, responses, members' first round candidate rankings and first round weighted candidate list was discussed, which Sherri will communicate to members via email.

Sherri will send the 150% candidate list, Trimet data, and SPIS data to members.

- Next meeting date: August 18.
- Meeting agenda items: discuss weighted candidate list.

7. Adjournment

Member Manseau moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Member Laird seconded. Motion passed unanimously.