

## Minor Betterment Program Review and Selection Committee



Department of  
Land Use & Transportation

**October 3, 2013**  
**4 p.m. to 6 p.m.**  
**Walnut Street Center**  
**Training Room 3**

### Members:

Brian Irish, County  
Doug Riedweg, RROMAC  
Dyami Valentine, County  
Jake Mintz, CCI  
Jason Yurgel, URMDAC  
Jim McCulloch, RROMAC  
Marty Moyer, URMDAC  
Paul Seitz, County  
Shelley Oylear, County  
Tim Connelly, URMDAC

### Staff:

Linda Moehnke  
Todd Watkins  
Victoria Saager

### Guests:

Chris Grothen, Fairfield Street  
David Sly, 119th Avenue  
Dick Sirianni, 119th Avenue  
Noel Boilel, Alexander Street  
Randy Bither, Fairfield Street  
Teri Cooper, 119th Avenue  
Terry Baker, Fairfield Street  
Val Evers, Verboort Road

## MINUTES

Victoria Saager opened the meeting with introductions.

### Guest Comments

Victoria welcomed the guests and invited them to speak to the committee. In the interest of time, she encouraged them not to repeat the information they had submitted in writing. All the committee members have reviewed the input previously submitted.

Val Evers of Verboort said she submitted lengthy input suggesting alternate routes and other ideas. She is excited to have improvement along Verboort Road and is supportive of improving safety and developing opportunities for bikes, pedestrians and children to move about safer on Verboort Road. It used to be a country road and is now a thoroughfare. She said it is a good start to the Scenic Bikeway connections. Jason Yurgel asked about the volume of pedestrian traffic. Jake Mintz asked how many children walk to school. Val responded the school has about 130 students and they are primarily driven to school. She said most people along the road have to cross to get their mail and a path would make it safer. More may walk if it is safer.

Chris Grothen thanked the committee for allowing him to speak and he said he had sent a lengthy email regarding Fairfield Street and Walker Road. He thanked Victoria for helping him get a stop sign. He said the Walker Road candidate would be much better than Fairfield. If improvements to Walker are going to impact the Minor Betterment then revisit it later. Chris suggested reworking the numbers on Fairfield, because the current drainage issues need to be considered. Curb front sidewalk creates drainage issues. Work will need to be done with homeowners to address their sump systems. A few years ago several worked with Clean Water Services and separated the storm water systems from the sewer systems. Driveways are narrow and square and the driveways will need to be widened. The Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District should be included in planning, because right now their park drainage is not sufficient and any changes may make that worse. Chris recommended the committee make thoughtful choices.

Jake Mintz said there have been pedestrian improvements on the south side of Center Street and pedestrians are using the paths to transit stops and Winco. One to three children would be all that would use this path. Marty Moyer said the THPRD improvements would not impact the path. Brian Irish said THPRD officially supports the projects at both Fairfield and 119th, and referenced the letter from their Deputy Director of Planning, Aisha Willits.

Terry Baker is against Fairfield being on this list. He has lived there 40 years and there have been major water issues and he has experienced flooding under his house. He suggests the tax money be

spent to address the drainage issue particularly on the corner of 122nd and Denfield where there is no drain and it is full of water. The drain at Fairfield and Center is usually plugged and full of water to the point of coming out of the drain. This street has a low use of pedestrians and the residences should carry a stronger vote about their street than outsiders. Speed bumps used to work, but since surface treatments have been done they are sloped wrong and cause drainage issues. Tim Connelly asked if anyone has addressed these issues with CWS? The answer was yes, an 80-year-old neighbor said there used to be east and west ditches and those were filled.

Jake Mintz said Fairfield was turned in by someone wanting to walk on this street. He suggested perhaps there is a way to change some of the landscaping to accommodate walkers, and do the property owners feel an obligation to pedestrians? The answer was no, the restriction of parking on the street would be needed as parking increases the risk to pedestrians.

Jason asked why the west and not the south side. He said he has had ducks in his driveway and water in the back yard. Single car driveway with a sidewalk means cars cannot park end to end and would have to be parked in the street. It's an expensive project for just one or two walkers.

Randy Bither said they were flooded in 1996.

David Sly Lives on 119th and has water problems. David walks the street and it is not a problem. Now that 124th is done, cars are parking on the street and it is much narrower. He felt there was no reason to do Fairfield.

Terry Cooper said most of the homes are two bedrooms, and the owners are retired. They do not need a bike or pedestrian path. The driveways would all need to be replaced and retaining walls built. Terry said no on Fairfield.

Dick Sirianni has lived there 38 years and doesn't feel there is need and the cost is excessive. He is retired and sees maybe six or eight people in a day walking dogs. Dick said no to 119th and no to Fairfield; spend the money on 123rd. Dick had to pull over on 124th to let a car pass because now the cars are parking on a narrower street. Homes on 119th are below grade and they already have drainage problems. He felt money could be better spent. He mentioned in the neighborhood petition about this project there were three pages of 'No' votes and two 'Yes' votes.

Victoria noted that the projects in this neighborhood were requested by the Cedar Hills Homeowners Association. Originally they researched doing them with a Community Development Block Grant, but it could not be done. So they became Minor Betterment candidates.

David said Walker to Hwy 217 is a better project and asked whether it would be a sidewalk. Todd Watkins said that portion of Walker Road is on the radar right now with many others, and may be part of a major capital improvement project, but the timeframe is unknown. Some segments are under the jurisdiction of the City of Beaverton. Dyami Valentine said they are looking at 2018 for a MSTIP project on Walker.

Jason said that the guests from 119th and from Fairfield would like an answer tonight and noted that the committee respects their comments. Doug Riedwig moved to take both 119th and Fairfield off the list for consideration in this selection cycle and Jason Yergel seconded the motion. By a unanimous vote the committee removed them from consideration.

Victoria thanked the guests for coming and for sharing their comments. The final list will be posted, and if a decision is not reached tonight, the next meeting notice will be posted.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Jason Yurgel moved and Brian Irish seconded that the minutes of the July 30 meeting be approved as written and the committee unanimously approved.

## **Update on Current Projects**

Todd reported that the 2012-2013 projects are wrapping up. Murray Road is starting soon, as is Blanton. 197th is in active construction and Rock Creek has not started. River Road is in land use review, and Walker Road needs to be modified due to right-of-way issues. 173rd to Shaw is starting.

For the 2013-2014 projects, we're in the design stage of Grahams Ferry Road (City of Tualatin will add a sidewalk). The 92nd/Laidlaw pedestrian bridge is more elaborate and will cost more than the original estimates. Engineering and Construction Services Division has assigned an engineer to the 2013-2014 Minor Betterment projects; his name is Zack Morris.

Jim McCullouch asked if we are dropping some projects due to funding. Todd said as we get into the design phase, costs become clearer and available funding will be considered. If a project becomes a much larger project, the consultants will recommend it be moved to a program with a different funding source.

## **Review Public Input on Top Candidates**

Victoria noted that the outreach worked well, including media coverage, direct outreach, TriMet, THPRD and mailings. There were 13 pages of comments. Committee members had reviewed comments during the public input phase. There was no discussion regarding the public input on the top candidates.

## **Develop List of Recommended Projects**

Jake said the sidewalk on one piece of Jenkins should be done. Is it a City of Beaverton project? Although the right-of-way has been annexed by City of Beaverton, Jenkins is a county road. Noel Briley of Alexander Street inquired as to why the north side instead of the south side. Brian said the widened shoulder would assist with foot or bike traffic on the north side and there are poles on the south side. Noel had some concern about drainage, rock barriers and speed on the road. Jim asked about the cost and whether the widening made speed a bigger issue. Shelley Oylear commented we need to be mindful of adding width to a street for that very reason. This may be a candidate for a major project with a full sidewalk. Paul Seitz noted the Washington County web site included information about the [Neighborhood Streets Program](#) as a resource for traffic calming devices and assistance.

Dyami suggested removing Barnes Road candidate from consideration because of improvements included in the Peterkort master plan expected to be constructed within five years.

Jake Mintz said the criteria for the final decision should be based on whether or not a project qualifies for URMD funding, ensuring diversity amongst CPO groups, and ensuring that all are buildable.

Tim Connelly asked about the hedge on Laurelwood and Brian said the hedge is not a problem. Tim wants the Scholls Ferry path done, and if you do one do the other. Brian said the parking lot will lose about 5'. Shelley agreed and commented these paths connect people. Paul and Tim suggest removing the Scholls Ferry Road at Laurelwood candidate.

Noting the late hour, Victoria asked the committee if they wanted to schedule another meeting or continue on toward making a decision. The committee agreed to make a decision.

Brian supports not choosing roads that are URMD eligible.

Todd mentioned Rock Road has a lot of foot traffic.

Shelley suggested removing 158th and Walker, and perhaps add it to the Nike Campus projects.

Doug wants Verboort road selected, and noted that CPO 3 has two big projects. Jason said smaller projects are good and CPO3 only got one last year and none the year before.

The committee agreed the Jenkins candidate is too big.

209th has high transit use, but is narrow and trucks are encouraged to use 209th.

Bike and pedestrian paths on Blanton are good. No trucks on 198th and is it URMD eligible.

After discussion, the committee arrived at the following list of candidates:

- Verboort Rd (400ft e/Visitation to Porter)
- Rock Road (Rock Ct to Cornelius Pass)
- Scholls Ferry (Laurelwood to 395ft east of Northvale Way)
- Barnes Road (Saltzman Rd to Cornell Rd)
- Walker Rd (180th to 183rd)

Total estimated cost is \$490,021.

Marty moved to approve the list, and Brian seconded the motion. The committee unanimously approved the recommendations.

Todd thanked everyone for a good job and the public input. He shared that given the situation with road maintenance funding, this allocation for Minor Betterments may not be available in the future. Stay tuned.

Victoria also thanked the committee and staff for their successful efforts. A debrief meeting will be scheduled for early November. The committee may consider identifying an alternate(s) project at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.