

Foundation for Ada/Canyon Trail Systems (F.A.C.T.S.)

Minutes of February 28, 2024

Meeting called for 3:00 PM

In attendance:

Officers: Bill Gigray, President; Bill Mullane, Vice President, Sharon Hubler, Secretary

Directors: Paul Mann, Bob Hay, Robert Minch, Mark Eubank and Gary Payne

Agency "ex officio": Meg McCarthy, ACHD; Austin Miller, COMPASS; Steve Noyes, city of Eagle Pathways (ret'd), living in McCall (208-761-9580); Cody Swander, city of Nampa Ass't Parks & Recreation Director; Jay Gibbons, Canyon County Ass't Director of Development Services; Dane Hoskins, city of Boise Pathways Program Manager; Mark Wasdahl, ITD District 3 Project Manager; and, Kim Warren, city of Meridian's Parks & Recreation Pathways Director

Call to Order

President Bill Gigray

The Meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM with an emphasis on Agency Reports.

Approve Agenda – Move to Approve, Additions/Reorder

It was moved to approve the Agenda by Gary Payne, seconded by Bob Hay.

MOTION CARRIED.

Officers' Reports

Secretary's Report – Minutes of Nov 29, 2023 and Jan 24, 2024 were approved as transmitted by Bob Hay, seconded by Gary Payne.

MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report – tabled

President and Vice President's Report – Agreed by both to defer to Agency Reports.

Agency Reports

City of Boise – Dane Hoskins

In the last six months – not all accomplishments are detailed but the highlights are: Cassia/Garden Street Pathway; existing 27,000 residents in downtown Boise. Broadway/Federal Way Pathway down to Leadville, grade is a challenge to maintain slope stability; complete final design this coming month; next in line Spaulding Ranch Historic, pathway near lateral/irrigation canal. Located close to Capital High, mostly publicly owned providing links to several schools along the Goddard Lineal Park. Spoil Banks Canal Pathway, which flows into the Boise River in Eagle will connect the entire NW Boise area. Applied for Federal dollars. Another facet of Pathway management is the hiring of a public safety manager from downtown to the greenbelt. ACHD will finish via 11th Street. CCDC is doing the work on the extension of Grove Street to Boise City Canal. Mark Eubank wondered about 8th Street to Grove with its going through Ada County Courthouse property, which requires going around St. Lukes parking lot. St. Luke's was not interested in any pathway perforation. Courthouse involves prisoner transport in and out. So, the project answer will be clear signage, visible lines and good sight lines along the alley that are signed, marked and signalized. As to repaving trails around the Warm Springs Golf Course that comes under parks purview and capital planning budget. Bob Hay was interested in the maintenance of replacing or repairing the current asphalt. There is an efficiency gained with concrete. Detour around the golf course as that occurs. Bill Gigray asked about the jurisdictional boundaries of city of Boise pathways...all the way to boundaries of the city and its areas of impact? Garden City pathway to Plantation Island is being thwarted by the HOA closing access on the northside. It is a Garden City subdivision but the city of Boise provides linkage to Bridge #1 on Plantation Island. Meg McCarthy noted that ACHD has removed this access from path network. Gary Payne pointed out that within a half mile there is another access

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around Lake Harbor but there is a forced commitment to part of its being on State Street. This is informational and Dane knows about it. ITD, ACHD and Valley Regional Transit are developing a shared vision for State Street, particularly as it relates to pedestrians and bicyclists.

Since the legislature is in session H 637 was mentioned. It was introduced 2/23 and targeted countywide highway districts intending to make a mosaic reflecting the small communities in Ada County by increasing the ACHD board from five to seven commissioners. As of March 15 it went to General Orders.

City of Eagle – Robert Minch

Robert and Mike Huffaker, Vice Chair of the Parks, Pathways & Nonmotorized Recreation Commission (PPRC) visited with Mayor Pike on 2/20. It has been difficult to re-create the liaison with FACTS without having a Pathways Superintendent such as Steve Noyes. The position that Steve held has been divided among several; there is a planner position open in the Public Works Department. The Greenbelt connection to Eagle Island State Park has pre-app activity with the Newman family and the Mayor will have follow-up with them. Downtown crossing Hwy. 44 safety issues. The general perception is that ACHD plans for Phases I and II are a done deal and will be implemented. Mayor Pike has lived in Eagle c. 10 years. He plans co-operative efforts in the future. The PPRC has an existing opening right now.

City of Nampa, Cody Swander, Ass't P&R Director

It will be difficult to recap all the projects but here is the capture from the notes taken. Stoddard Pathway extension is finally complete. One mile extended to three miles East Iowa northward to Amity crossing with 2nd Street terminus. Rails to Trails Conversion aided by COMPASS. Grimes Pathway outside the rail and adjacent to soccer is developed slightly under 0.5 miles. 11th Ave. N Extension will allow access to Centennial Golf Course and provide a north south connection. Orr Pathway (or is or part of Orah Brandt Park) named after waterways. Garrity Blvd. poses a high speed, bumpy road exit from the freeway heading south and a side path toward city center has a high crash data and the difficulty of a 10-foot southeastern edge of the roadway bike/ped improvement. As a matter of fact LakeView Park does not have existing r-o-w for bike/ped pathway. Indian Creek pathway from Amity NW to Sugar Creek has a narrow strip of r-o-w with significant sloughing. Hiway 16's effect cutting along the city's eastern edge identifying crossings, three on the Master Plan including Grimes Draw, Purdom Drain and Ten Mile Drain, heading toward Meridian, all of which are surface level type crossings. Trying to avoid cut-off undercrossings on Cherry Lane toward Franklin Road. This makes a good segue into the next agency presentation...

City of Meridian, Kim Warren, P&R Pathways Director

Kim is always happy to share changes and to update. Rails with Trails is the primary focus. Interesting development on-road with P&Z change on arterial roadways having 10-foot sidepath on both sides of road.

Meg McCarthy, ACHD Bike/Ped Program Coordinator

It's understandable that she has been directed to stay out and not get in the middle of the HOA closure of access to greenbelt whereas she is part of expediting State Street

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along with ITD and VRT to make bike/ped improvements. Public sidewalk and repaving of Orchard to Vista on a section of the Shoshone Bikeway on Overland. Gary Payne admitted the predicament since the issue of access is heavy laden with attorneys. Treasure Valley Cycling Alliance is working to bring the case forward.

Mark Wasdahl, ITD District 3 Project Manager

Good to hear his voice after several months of working away and not attending FACTS. District 3 hired another planner to carry different projects. The Glenwood project between Marigold and Chinden baseline will be between five lane and seven lanes. 300 units on the old Fairgrounds is probably not in the cards. Multi-modal along Glenwood to accommodate safety needs. Jason Brinkman is the new district engineer. Mark is mostly working on environmental clearances on Hwy. 16/44 junction along with the Hwy 16/52. Fairly high profile interchange on 16/44 coming off freeway might be said to be quasi-interstate. Some alignment modifications with pepper grass. He also learned a lot re: the Firebird Speedway, now on the National register of Historic Places. Hwy. 44 Star Road to SH 16 plans are for widening and including a 10-foot pathway in 2024. Concerns with wells where path will go in and how to meander a way around well heads. See April/May schedule for open houses. April 3 and 4 Tier I alternatives meetings pre-concept level, where are the lines going. Chinden West (Star Road to SH 16) wrapping up construction early summer 2024. Middleton to Star will go for bid May 24 including the purchase of 78 structures. Hwy 20/26 further west pathways, on Franklin Lane to Middleton, up to six lanes of traffic max. Refer to SH 16 extension 2025 and its impact on Nampa under Cody Swander's report. ITD still acquiring property on the Karcher Interchange through late spring 2024. The undercrossing on Montana and Hwy. 55 is a go.

52nd Street Bike/Ped Bridge – relevancies

It's a 3,000 foot walk along State Street to find another access point. State Street went to ACHD as part of a swap in 1989. Pierce Park Intersection has 11-foot lanes. Meg said that because of trees Ellens Ferry to Hereford can have only 10-foot on north and there is a sidewalk gap on the south side of State.

ACHD is working on Star Road from Chinden to Hwy. 44. It will have an asphalt-extruded curb and is set for construction in 2026. Environmental linkage on Star Road to Hwy. 44 Intersection could cut some expenses by work done ahead of time next year, Aaron Williams, Sr. Transportation Manager ACHD, is planning ahead on r-o-w needs to avoid having to utilize eminent domain. Bill Gigray complimented the real potential for Star Road by having this kind of proactive planning.

Robert Minch reminded FACTS that by 5:00 PM this coming Friday, application for PPRC opening must be a resident and citizen of Eagle and/or impact area, business owner or sponsored by business owner.

Both Bill G. and Bill Mullane agreed to table the rest of Agenda Actions.

Paul Mann was happy to report that the Caldwell Parks & Recreation Survey had feedback from 322 persons many of whom cited the improving of pathways and connectivity throughout the city as a top priority.

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The meeting stood adjourned at 5:03 PM. The next Business Meeting of FACTS will be held Wednesday, March 27 at 3:00 PM. Zoom instructions will be emailed to all.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. "Bill" Gigray, President

Sharon Hubler, Secretary