

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

(Recorded) Minutes of July 24, 2024

Meeting called for 3:00 PM

In attendance:

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

Directors: Paul Mann, Bob Hay, Mark Eubank, Robert Minch and Steve Noyes

Agency "ex officio": Alexa Roitman, *COMPASS*; Scott Koeborg, *Ada County Parks & Waterways*; Kendra Kenyon, *Idaho Foundation for Parks & Lands*; Dane Hoskins, *Pathways Manager, city of Boise*; and Meg McCarthy, *Bicyclist and Pedestrian Program Coordinator at Ada County Highway District (ACHD)*

Call to Order

President Bill Gigray

The Meeting was called to order at 3:08 PM.

Bill thanked Executive Board members Bill Mullane and Sharon Hubler who met without Bill Gigray who was representing a client in Federal Court.

Approve Agenda – Move to Approve, Additions/Reorder

It was moved by Paul Mann, seconded by Steve Noyes to approve the Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED.

Officers' Reports

1. Secretary's Report – Minutes of June 26, 2024

Secretary Sharon Hubler

It was moved to approve the Minutes of June 26, 2024 by Sharon Hubler, seconded by Bill Gigray.

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Treasurer's Report as of July 15, 2024

Treasurer Phil Peterson

It was moved to accept the Bank Balance of \$9,511.41 by Paul Mann, seconded by Mark Eubank.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. President's Report

President Bill Gigray

- a) Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) comes under the auspices of the Idaho Dept. of Lands. Determining the Garden City side pathway routing onto the Ada County property along the westerly side of the Boise River is a determinative factor given a bridge structure must not be in the floodplain.
- b) Bridge alternatives vis a vis costs not considered perhaps to their full extent by J-U-B because of hearing from LHTAC (Local Highway Technical Assistance Council) that the costs would be close to \$8 million. Bill will get to bridge alternatives later.
- c) Goals/Projects for 2024 (listed in attachment to Agenda)
- d) Bob Hay added that the Notice for Public Comment lasts from 7/1 to 7/31 on the Glenwood Street Corridor Plan. Seemingly favorable but timelines are kind of long as the pedestrian access on the west side is slated for 2029. He suggests having a cogent committee, which interacts further on this.

4. Vice President's Report

Vice President Bill Mullane

- a) Bill met with a Garden City gentleman living in Plantation Island subdivision who has lots of history and information and old records re: access/bridges and potential failure points. Plantation River Drive is mostly used by neighborhood. Apartment complex on State Street panicked neighbors feeling their street would be flooded by bike/ped wishing to access the Plantation Island Bridge.

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

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b) 52nd Street – Garden City Parks & Waterways Committee meets next week after which Bill plans to talk to neighbors along 52nd Street. Garden City will not take the lead on the existing bridges due to insufficient staff. which are viewed by some as not adequate in some engineering respects. Bill thinks that looking to FACTS and \$30m being spent on EXPO park expansion conjoin to seek opportunities in the context of bike/ped usage on Plantation Island. Steve Rutherford, Chief Operating Officer at Ada County could be a resource. Both bridges are privately owned by Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands.

5. **Presentation** on Rail with Trail GIS map

COMPASS

Alexa Roitman noted that the ACTIVE Transportation committee understands the funding participation that would be necessary and gave Matt Carlson kudos as a grant writer at COMPASS. Paul Mann and Gary Payne gave an historical presentation before the ACTIVE Transportation Committee last week talking about all the people who had participated resulting in a combination of energy in 2016. With COVID sub-committee petered out. Alexa and Ausin dug into the files and the list of things to do has pretty much been completed. Due to staff turnover, there has been some lag, but an interactive GIS map has been created one purpose of which was to detail EPA funding on brownfields development that administered through DEQ Idaho. Without the leverage of light rail, it seemed no reason to talk to Union Pacific. As to forming a subcommittee within the ACTIVE Transportation Committee and setting up a meeting with Elaine Clegg to become an additional advocate on Rail with Trail that would have to be done separately from COMPASS as Elaine represents Valley Regional Transit and sits on several COMPASS committees, namely high capacity transit. Here's a link to the map:

<https://compassidaho.maps.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=57d0737f1b5d49f7a09eab61ea42f633>

The map shows some opportunity segments/areas for acquisition of the trail. Bill G. asked if there has been some definitive statement from UP as to its opposition to the concept and contact information, is it the legal dept. that has been contacted. He would like to unearth where did this get left off, is the r-o-w owned in fee so there would be no underlying other ownership? The consultant ALTA was tasked with doing this research. Having a reconvened/restaffed sub-committee is not currently on the radar for COMPASS Communities in Motion 2055. The PELL process (Planning & Environmental Linkages Study) is the formal process on high capacity transit so that may unearth this type of information. Bill sees a need for advocacy on Rail with Trail because there is lots of employment centered in that area and crafted letters of support could come from Nampa, Meridian, Boise, CWI, Ada and Canyon Counties along with Amazon. Getting a groundswell of support from communities/government leaders who are willing to go public might help move this forward.

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

(Recorded) Minutes of July 24, 2024

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6. FACTS attendance at ZOOM meetings

Attendance (con't) Having in-person meetings at least occasionally to draw out more ideas would be fruitful. We were fortunate to have the COMPASS meeting room in Meridian for many years. Maybe FACTS could lock into an October and April meeting in-person with a ZOOM option by moving the Annual meeting to October. By consensus Bill will draft a revision of the by-laws for an October Annual meeting and get COMPASS go-ahead on the fourth Wednesday of April and October for a meeting room. Noting that several Agency people pick up children at 4:15 pm or so we could try to make their reports more time specific. In other words, they don't have to stay the full two hours but could ask to speak at a specific time slot.

7. Agency Reports

ADA COUNTY PARKS & WATERWAYS

Scott Koberg

Reporting on Judy Peavey-Derr, Sunroc and ARPA pathway between Garden City limits and Boise Wastewater Treatment Facility this 1.6 mile section was converted from asphalt to concrete, 11-feet wide with striping. The bridge was replaced with a longer 60-feet wider span and realignment of two sharp corners. Bank stabilization repair from the 2017 flooding was another element to protect Boise River water quality. There have been rolling closures since last December 2023 and now it has been opened to the public Friday 7/12/24. Confirmation earlier today from Ada County BOCC that a ceremonial ribbon-cutting will occur Monday, August 5th at 1:30 pm. Bill Mullane offered to attend and Sharon Hubler later requested Judy Peavey-Derr to attend. The event will be off the Duck Lake Lane cul-de-sac near the original layback sign kiosk with on street parking urging attendees to avoid driveways and mailbox spacing. Scott held up the wrought iron sign from the FACTS bridge; Mark Eubank offered to store it. The barbed wire fencing has always been along this section since 2013 with some new replacement this year. As vegetation grows back it will help conceal what some perceive as a nonnative element. This was at the request of Sunroc originally. Scott summed up this part of his report by saying the original layback sign will be replaced with updated information.

Second item regards 52nd Street spur pathway improvements onto Remington Street and EXPO Idaho park. The Commissioners have preapproved six construction contractors with the award to a specific contractor determined in mid-October. ARPA funding needs to be obligated by the end of this year 2024 and construction finished by December 2026.

The Third item concerns a potential 10 mph speed limit on the greenbelt designed for safe and prudent use and as a means to cross-deputize law enforcement. 10 mph was never the case as it refers to driving auto traffic in Barber Park parking lots and entry. A MOU is in the process of being signed by Ada County Sheriff's office, cities of Eagle, Star, Boise and Garden City. Ada County Commission thought the various comments warranted a public hearing ADA County Parks & Waterways (con't) and are hosting it Tuesday, August 13th at 6:00 pm in the Public Hearing Room, Ada County Courthouse. Bob Hay and

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

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Mark Eubank volunteered to attend. Mark's idea in terms of what he hears at greenbelt information booths is not mph enforcement but courtesy signage such as "Slow Down, Boise Nice" something akin to what is being used downtown Boise.

The Fourth item relating to upcoming projects starting later this fall is the greenbelt in front of IDPR, ISF and Riverstone International School. A bid opening coming up next Tuesday on the .65 mile to where the Penitentiary Canal segment takes off. Ada County working with Bureau of Reclamation. There will be some detours on this project, which will be discussed at the preconstruction conference. The greenbelt through Barber Park also deserves attention. There's going to be a two acre park below Diversion Dam like a pocket park rest area in the works. Root barrier in a couple of spots. Thanks, Scott, for an excellent report.

A.C.H.D.

Meg McCarthy

Working on an integrated five year work plan that denotes when and how, what projects are happening. Public comments are open until August 14th. Linder to State pushed out to 2027. Three different concept/design from 14th ending at 8th State Street will be voted on by ACHD Commission tonight at 6:00 pm. The five lane option suggested by VRT is one and there are two – three lane options with protected bike lanes and/or multi-use pathway. Go to: <https://engage.achdidaho.org>

Thanks Meg for keeping us informed on projects.

CITY OF BOISE

Dane Hoskins, Pathways

Manager

Dane said maintenance issues are under the rubric of Boise Parks and suggested going onto their web site for some projects. He had a couple things. Federal Way to Leadville bikeway, new alignments for Broadway and BSU. This project will satisfy a two mile gap in getting off the bench. Should be seeing some high level graphics and renderings next week. Tuttle Lateral south of Capital High moving along quickly offering a neighborhood connection near Spaulding Ranch Park site. Grove Street Pathway at 3rd and Grove working with CCDC through Idaho Power and St. Lukes two stage Zebra crossing to clarify alignment.

Also, redesign on 8th to greenbelt specifically Anne Frank Memorial near library to get a little more sight distance. Dane is tracking Micron development and greenbelt up the hill. Alta Harris Park off Eckert is working with Ridenbaugh Irrigation because of proximity to one of its main diversions.

Adjournment

It was moved by Sharon Hubler, seconded by Paul Mann to adjourn the meeting. The meeting stood adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hubler, Secretary

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