

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

(Recorded) Minutes of August 28, 2024

Meeting called for 3:00 PM

In attendance:

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

Directors: Bob Hay, Mark Eubank and Robert Minch

Agency "ex officio": Austin Miller, *COMPASS*; Colin Schmidt, *Garden City Public Works Director*; Kim Warren, *Meridian Pathways Project Manager*; and, Mark Wasdahl, *ITD Region 3 Project Manager*

Call to Order

President Bill Gigray

The Meeting was called to order at 3:06 PM.

Approve Agenda – Move to Approve, Additions/Reorder

It was moved by Mark Eubank, seconded by Bob Hay to approve the Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED.

Officers' Reports

1. Secretary's Report – Minutes of July 24, 2024 Secretary Sharon Hubler

It was moved to approve the Minutes of July 24, 2024 by Sharon Hubler, seconded by Mark Eubank.

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Treasurer's Report as of August 26, 2024 Treasurer Phil Peterson

It was moved to accept the Bank Balance of \$9,686.85 by Mark Eubank, seconded by Bill Mullane.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. President's Report

President Bill Gigray

- a) IDOL #499 held by Garden City; follow-up with Dean Johnson on easement south side Boise River going west...bridge cost ended up being \$8 million estimate due to lot of environmental due to Flood Plain. Dean Johnson provided copy of Easement #499, lying in front of parcels west of 52nd Street held by the city of Garden City. Question to Dean Johnson was typifying 25-foot easement owned by the Idaho Dept. of Lands on the south side going west to provide a land route with no bridge. No answer forthcoming yet on establishing the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) on this segment.
- b) Matt Sipple, J-U-B Engineers – Bill talked to Matt to look at alternate designs on the bridge span that might lessen environmental impact. Matt thought that the pathway leading off the bridge to Plantation Island might be a bigger problem. Bill suggested an elevated boardwalk to avoid the Flood Plain constraint since they are used in quite a few pathway projects. Bill plans to contact Steve Rutherford, Ada County Chief Operating Officer for help from Ada County as the expansion of EXPO Park takes place.
- c) Caldwell Greenbelt Civic League (CGCL) (1983-84) request by Steven Jenkins, Economic Development Director for Caldwell. CGCL was responsible for the original greenbelt system. CGCL purchased 18-acre property known as Whittenberger Park west side of Centennial Way. A Company made an application for a 5,000 seat amphitheater in Sunnyslope, which was turned down. Next, near the College of Idaho Wolfe Baseball Field on acreage owned by the city there was a proposal and the neighbors objected. Would Whittenberger owned by CGCL be a possibility? Deed has a whole bunch of conditions for use of the Park and a defeasance clause by

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- which ownership would be lost. Curtis Park is on the northern part of the greenbelt. Bill G. asked Steve Jenkins to get a couple new folks to serve on the Caldwell Greenbelt Civic League and the names forthcoming were Bob Carpenter, Carpenter Printing and Shellye Wilson, YMCA, Caldwell. Bob is the individual largely responsible for the uncovering of Indian Creek and the formation of Destination Caldwell and the Plaza. He is interested in seeing the extension of the greenbelt from Boise, through Eagle and Star and onward to Canyon County. The CGCL has been maintained as a corporate entity and now it will resurface with a proposal being put forward on the amphitheater.
- d) Greenbelt etiquette, safe and prudent conduct – Bill noted that a MOU offering shared jurisdictions has been signed and will contact Charles Wadams, Garden City to get a copy.
 - e) Additional Board members – Inviting a few to sit as board members for FACTS. Bill G. will follow-up with the city of Nampa and Cody Swander asking when he is available to give a presentation on the bike/ped pathway plan since we have not heard from Nampa lately. He will similarly reach out to Dane Hoskins regarding linkage to Micron expansion with the Boise Pathway system. Mark Eubank said we already have a commuter path on Federal Way but biking north from Micron to Highway 21 gets pretty fast downhill. Bill can attest as he recently did that route while in Boise representing a client in Federal Court.
 - f) Discussion Glenwood Street Corridor Plan – Asking Bob Hay for suggestions as he feels the need for a cogent committee to keep track. So far, a narrowed center turn lane, and restriping has gotten rid of the ill-used left turn. Bob is not sure of any widening of the bike lane nor bridge itself plans perhaps destined for 2026. The upshot is keeping in touch with Region 3 District Engineer Jason Brinkman and EXPO Park Steve Rutherford.
 - g) Rail with Trail – Gary Payne and Paul Mann gave a report on the place where the project left off. Bill G. will call Mayor Kling, Nampa and ask about her interest in resurrecting along with Mayors of Boise and Meridian, their interest. Without broad-based support of the cities and CCDC and Meridian Development Corp. along with hospitals and perhaps Micron FACTS will have to let the plan linger and not put much energy into it. Speaking for Meridian Kim said that there is great support for this pathway but it needs to elevate to a higher level and suggested bringing in Elaine Clegg and get her vision for setting this in motion. She is pro multi-modal transportation, and she could help focus our efforts. Bill G. said there must be the political will to move forward involving presidents and directors of C of Cs. Another name that came forward was Jay Gibbons, Assistant Director of Development Services in Canyon County. As a sidebar Kim noted that talking to Meridian Arts Coordinator gave her perspective because there's a nuclei of film makers and other people coming into the valley having different expectations.

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- h) Resolution Bylaws amended and reformed for FACTS Annual Meeting – later on in the Agenda presenting Amendments to By-laws including twice a year having meetings physically present with a Zoom adjunct in April/October
- 4. Vice President's Report Vice President Bill Mullane
 - a) Visits with 52nd Street Neighbors – Bill M. along with a member of Garden City Parks & Waterways Committee visited in the 52nd Street area. In a general sense they are not getting accurate information, were encouraged to give their feedback and strongly gave their support in favor of the bridge. They have a special issue between homes and the river route because of the vagaries of the river they are not fond of that. One neighbor's driveway who recently moved into her aunt's home indicated that the detour onto Remington was a big roadblock. Her driveway dead ends with Ada County property; next door to her are apartments with a space that might have the potential of an easement for a better land route. Bill Mullane will visit with her as a potential board member; she is a runner. Still to be considered is the one option of getting increased funding for a bridge with the need according to Bill G. of getting more information on what kind of bridge, abutments required and perhaps an elevated pathway due to environmental requirements. Sharon H. offered that one potential source of funding for obtaining this information could be Tourism and Economic Development, both encased in the Idaho Dept. of Parks & Recreation that has a large base network. We need a grant for more complete engineering and better cost estimates. Bill M. offered to speak with Toni Tisdale, COMPASS and J-U-B once again. Shawn McFadden neighbor was not home but will be contacted subsequently. Bill G. says there's a parcel on the east edge of the McFadden property and we need to contact the Ada County Assessor for the parcel number and to whom the tax notices are sent.
 - b) Looking at Master Plans from various cities cohesive to FACTS mission – all these communities have Master Plans with great goals and objectives, many of which are quite in line with FACTS. We have been talking about the city of Nampa and Bill M. went to the web site and found a new parks Master Plan for 2024. It refers to expanding pathways and connectivity; needed of course are the Budget and Staff to get this done. Austin indicated that COMPASS has gone one step further than maintenance and standards for all pathways and obtained copies of Master Plans and put them all on one consolidated map that deals with specific projects. Sometimes it's difficult for staff to track revisions of these plans. Bill G. offered FACTS assistance to help by getting ahold of these municipalities. If Austin could send summaries of these plans to Sharon she would help with getting FACTS members to assist with contacts.
 - c) Ribbon-cutting on Greenbelt attended by Mark Eubank, Gary Segers, Robert Minch, Judy Peavey-Derr and Bill Mullane Monday, August 5 at 1:30, including also Ada County Commissioners and Mayor Evans, Garden City.

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Bill M. showed several photos of the event and the plaque from the FACTS bridge is being saved for possible repurpose.

- d) Ada County Public Hearing on MOU ordinance August 13 at 6:00 pm – attended by Bob Hay, Mark Eubank and Bill Mullane who explained that the ordinance is purposely vague, mph is not considered enforceable. “Reasonably and prudently” is the standard that defers to conditions and potential hazards that exist. It offers cross jurisdictional purview and the possibility of misdemeanor ticketing. General consensus, according to Bob Hay, is one of good judgment and courtesy. Some of the new greenbelt users, including e-bikes need to know to exercise caution, but any subset of greenbelt users, dog walkers, scooters and so forth may need to know, according to what Bill M. heard from the attorney. Mark Eubank had a messaging idea like the old Burma Shave and Wall Drug signage. Along the way signage such as “Boise Nice”, “Ada County Kind” “Caldwell Congenial”, speak to the behavior without negative connotation. Where there’s heavy (not “large”) pedestrian traffic would also be useful signage.

Thanks, Bill M. for all the insights and good reportage. Instead of going directly to Budgets, FACTS is honored to have Mark Wasdahl in our midst today and will go directly to his ITD, Region 3, agency report:

ITD did a hot seal on Glenwood earlier this summer. Typically, bridges are narrower than approaches, but in this case Glenwood Bridge is wider. Jason Brinkman, District Engineer came up with change of striping, eliminating center turn lane on bridge relieving bike lane congestion. On the west side there is a five-foot marked buffer; on the north side of the bridge a free running right going to west bound on Chinden, no change of r-o-w it loosened up another 5 to 7-foot buffer for the bike lane. Mark saw a family of bicyclists with small children using this route. ITD installed green bars at Marigold, which did not line up properly, but the contractor got it cleaned up. Project Draft ITIP is going to ITD Board in September. Fiscal outlook interceded with minus \$260m over seven years necessitating some items being split up into two years. NW side of Glenwood Bridge “design” leading to sidewalk is tied into Carbon Reduction grant starting FY 2025 for \$156k. COMPASS hosting grant but it’s believed ITD will do the build even though it’s on the Garden City side slated for 2029 construction amounting to \$1,066,000. More to the story is the removal of a light pole and shoring the retaining wall and moving a guard rail back. There’s an ongoing traffic study on Glenwood, comments not having been addressed to ITD’s satisfaction will have another go-round. Bill G. asked about how 20/26 is moving forward between Star Road and Middleton Road. Now five lanes a 10-foot separated sidewalk on the north side is contemplated with the widening to seven lanes. Two construction packages, east and west, with the possibility of being ready for bid in late 2024. Question on how far out completing Highway 16. Franklin to Interstate, this calendar year; two phases remain, Franklin to Ustick and Ustick to Chinden, first phase summer of 2026. How about Highway 55? Farmway to

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Middleton, demolition underway. Acquisition finalized early fall 2024, advertising construction package this month and should start construction November, this year. Tunnel for Caldwell greenbelt is in there. Highway 44, Star Road east to W. State Street, rolled back to 2029 technically.

Environmental exclusion should go away, and this project will go forward to west of Highway 16.

5. Bylaws amended and reformed for FACTS Annual Meeting – change over from Boise River Trails Foundation to Foundation for Ada/Canyon Trail Systems, Inc. and Annual Meeting from November to October. Seven days' notice on Resolution. Bob Hay called for quorum requirement to make these amendments. Quorum when the meeting started but consensus is to defer until September's meeting.

6. **Discussion** Budgets planned for next year, publication and appropriation. Delegate time specific for agencies having this information and willing to share. L2 worksheet due 9/5 for each city and county. Agency people give us an idea of what budgets look like, basic idea, not line item. Parcel out reports time specific.

7. **Signage** on Judy Peavey-Derr Pathway
Robert Minch, Judy, Mark Eubank, Gary Segers

Sharon Hubler will contact Don Stockton and Jerry Hastings to see if they would like to re-use the old bridge signage. Currently, in storage by Mark Eubank.

8. Agency Reports:

City of Meridian

Kim Warren

Master Plan progress update in October for agencies. Budgets could be presented at September meeting and Bill G. will contact Cody Swander regarding his willingness. Stretch of pathway from McMillan to Hwy. 20/26, north south routes finalized. Total mileage calculation this fall: Last count 74 miles dedicated bike/ped facilities, a lot of which is being built by development community, under management of HOA or dedicated to the city. For instance, Five Mile pathway has been dedicated to city by developers. Bob Hay expressed his resistance to HOA management without its being part of HOA fees to maintain pathways even though it may be working well for now. Bill G. called for classification as major or minor collectors.

COMPASS

Austin Miller

Communities in Motion 2050 presented to the board a week before. Spoils Bank 1.5 Canal West Hill Road and State Street. Glenwood Road north to Riverside, Five-Mile Overpass I-84 pathway added.

Adjournment – the meeting stood adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hubler, Secretary

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