



MEMORANDUM

Date: Wednesday, August 31, 2022

To: Project Management Team

From: Karen Swirsky and Katie Popp, Kittelson & Assoc.

Subject: TCP Advisory Committee Meeting #3 Minutes

Attendees:

- Andrea Breault, Cascades East Transit (CET) abreault@coic.org
- Chris Cheng, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Chris.CHENG@odot.state.or.us
- Dave Thomson, County Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) d.a.thomson@icloud.com
- Devin Hearing, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) devin.hearing@odot.oregon.gov
- Gabriel Coler gabrielcoler@gmail.com
- Jeannine Fraley jeanninefraley@gmail.com
- Karen Swirsky, Kittelson & Associates kswirsky@kittelson.com
- Katie Popp, Kittelson & Associates kpopp@kittelson.com
- Peter Russell, Deschutes County, peter.russell@deschutescounty.gov
- Rachel Zakem, CET rzakem@coic.org
- Tarik Rawlings, Deschutes County Planning tarik.rawlings@deschutes.org
- Theresa Conley, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Theresa.L.CONLEY@odot.state.or.us

Notes:

Tumalo Open House Overview; Peter Russell, Deschutes County

There were approximately 45 people at the open house. Many were confused that it was a meeting about the sewer feasibility study.

The County presented draft goals and policies for transportation, natural resources, open space, land use, environment, etc. Focusing on active transportation, the following generalizations can be made:

- Many attendees expressed opposition to Recreation policy #1. Peter feels that this is a result of an anti-tourist sentiment. In particular, people were uncomfortable with proposed policies that could make Tumalo more of a destination. Specifically, designating the river as Wild and Scenic, improving access to the river, or advertising Tumalo as the key destination on the Twin Bridges Scenic Bikeway. However, most were supportive of wider shoulders for cyclists and pedestrians.

- On the topic of transit in Tumalo, some attendees expressed opposition to a transit stop in Tumalo, mostly on social concerns but also wondering if there is a real need.
- There was support for road standards consistent with rural policy and sidewalk infill – but residents do not want sidewalks in residential areas away from the commercial core.

The County's next steps with Goals and Policies is to take all the feedback and simplify the language. The County is going to wait until the sewer feasibility study is done to reduce confusion, sometime in October. Therefore, the Active Transportation work will probably have its own online Open House in October in order to meet the grant deadlines.

Initial Concept Plan

Karen Swirsky (Kittelton) walked through the three key topics in the initial concept plan. Discussions from the meeting are documenting as they relate to each topic.

1. Safety & Speed Improvements. *Advisory Committee support, no comments.*
2. Pedestrian Connectivity

Tumalo to Tumalo State Park Trail

Chris asks if we have run the "Reconsidering trail from Tumalo to Tumalo State Park" proposal by Oregon State Parks. It's possible that ODOT swapped right-of-way with Oregon State Parks. Kittelson will check to make sure OSP is okay with the inclusion of the trail concept in the County Transportation Plan. Chris suggested Peter Wanamaker at OSP as a potential contact.

Jeannie asked for clarification on what the issue is with having a trail to Tumalo State Park. Karen explained the known archaeological sites along the trail. Jeannie expressed support for a river trail but there is a greater need on OB Riley Road for a separated path or shoulder widening.

Gabe lives near the existing user trail in that neighborhood and feels that it would be great to have an established trail that is cleaner and nicer than the existing makeshift trail which is often used by dirt bikers. A designated trailhead with parking might attract too many people. The surface could be wood chips or rolled granite, Shevlin Parks style – something that would be better than the existing ankle-deep sand. He understands that everyone wants things to stay the way they are now, but right now they're not clean and could be nicer.

Transit

Jeannie noted that many people she's talked to are not positive about a stop in Tumalo.

Peter pointed out that the Bend MPO, city and county are under new pressure to provide transit under the new rules to reduce greenhouse gases.

Karen reminded the Committee that the final decision is with CET. Our scope is to identify a potential location for CET.

Andrea said that CET has been collecting customer comment forms for about 12 years and the need to stop in Tumalo has been brought up over the past decade. She will provide these comment to us.

Gabe feels that the Country Store location might induce more negativity from the public and that it might possibly be better to wait until the sidewalks along Bruce Avenue can be constructed.

Theresa asked if we know timing for constructing sidewalks on Bruce. Peter's response is that most County sidewalks are development-driven. However, in order for the stop to be accessible, the sidewalk would only have to go to the nearest intersection, such as from 7th to the Bruce stop.

Theresa suggested that examples of transit stops from Prineville and La Pine might be useful to illustrate the concept. Peter suggested that we also include a photo of the van that would be used so folks don't get the idea that it's going to be a large bus.

Action Items

- Kittelson to check to make sure OSP is okay with the inclusion of the trail concept in the County Transportation Plan. Chris suggested Peter Wanamaker at OSP as a potential contact.
- CET to provide Kittelson with customer comments from the past decade that are related to a stop in Tumalo.

Chat/Comment Log

[Monday 4:36 PM] CONLEY Theresa L

Do we know the timing for constructing sidewalks on Bruce?

[Monday 4:40 PM] CONLEY Theresa L

I agree and same with transit stops - what if we bring examples from Sisters, Prineville or La Pine on how the bus stops work and what the stops and stop usage looks like?