

December 9, 2014  
5:30 P.M.  
Newport, Oregon

The City of Newport Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee met on the above date in Conference Room A of the Newport City Hall. In attendance were Marsha Eckelman, Maryann Bozza, Susan Hogg, Bob Hein, and Alisha Kern. Also in attendance was Council Liaison Mark Saelens, and Peggy Hawker, City Recorder/Special Projects Director.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 10, 2014**

MOTION was made by Hogg, seconded by Eckelman, to approve the minutes of November 10, 2014 meeting, as presented. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

### **REVIEW CURRENT STAFF REPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS**

The Committee reviewed the status of the following projects that were listed on the Public Works Director's report: Highway 101 pedestrian improvements; Agate Beach Wastewater Improvements/Big Creek force main; and the Bay Boulevard/SE Moore Drive Storm Sewer Improvements.

The Committee reviewed the staff report from the Community Development Director's report and primarily the issue of Safe Haven Hill, its access to the Coho/Brant neighborhood; and how easy it will be to go up the hill for recreational purposes.

### **REVIEW LIST OF QUESTIONS FOR CITY STAFF**

It was agreed to leave the current questions and receive updates from city staff on the status of each question. The questions are:

1. There is a disconnect on the 40<sup>th</sup> Street trail to OCCC - can sharrows be considered for enhanced connectivity?

Public Works Director Gross submitted the following written response to this question:

SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street has a sidewalk on the north side connecting the multiuse path on SE Ash Street to the multiuse path on the south side of SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street, located 700 feet east of SE Ash Street. SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street is not on any designated bicycle route in any City plan, nor does it see significant volumes of bicycles. The site distance is extremely good, and there have not been any reported bicycle/vehicle accidents or injuries. The City is annually installing shared lane markings, prioritizing those installations in the

areas identified in the approved Bike and Pedestrian System Master Plan, beginning with the Oregon Coast Bike Route on Oceanview Drive and Elizabeth Street. Since Public Works has limited resources, we are intending to continue with this plan, and do not intend to install shared lane markings on SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street.

The existing multi-use path on SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street ends at the west edge of the property owned by the Wilder Development. When the property to the west of Wilder develops, the multiuse path will be extended further west. The owner of this property has been grading the property and the City extended utilities in 2012 making this property suitable for commercial development. As the economy grows, I expect this property to develop within the next few years.

The Bike and Pedestrian System Master Plan was completed in 2008. The landscape of Newport has changed considerably in that time and it is certainly within the purview of the Bike and Pedestrian Committee to request that Council authorize the master plan to be updated. As part of the budgeting process in FY14/15, City staff requested funds to update the Parks System Master plan. Although funding was not approved at that time, staff will likely make this request again this coming year. It may make sense to update these plans together, considering the interconnectivity of the parks and trails systems with the proposed sidewalk, multi-use path, and bicycle route improvements.

2. Can the bike lane, previously on Bay Boulevard, be restored?

It was noted that this question would be discussed later in the agenda.

3. Would the city consider installing dog waste containers on the Big Creek Trail?

Saelens reported that Jim Protiva will install a dog waste container on the Big Creek Trail.

4. Is there a plan to include signage at both ends of the Big Creek Trail?

Saelens reported that Jim Protiva will talk with Oregon State Parks on this issue.

5. Would the city consider installation of a bike rack at the Nye Beach Turnaround?

Public Works Director Gross submitted the following written response to this question:

I have inquired with Jim Guenther, Park Maintenance Supervisor, if the City has a bicycle rack in stock that could be installed at the turn around.

It was agreed to leave the list of questions on the agenda until the issues are handled or dropped.

## REVIEW OF EXISTING PROJECTS AND BEGIN SETTING NEW PROJECT PRIORITIES

A discussion ensued regarding signage on Highway 101 near the surf shop. Saelens reported that he will talk with Jim Protiva and Tim Gross on how to proceed with pedestrian signage in this area. He noted that Protiva thought that the state's improvements to Agate Beach, via the master plan, might be an opportunity.

It was reiterated that the sharrows on Elizabeth Street will be installed before the end of this fiscal year.

It was noted that the preliminary planning for the following projects is scheduled to be completed by February of 2015: Trail - NW Nye Street to Oceanview Drive; Trail connecting the Agate Beach Wayside Trail to the sidewalk on Highway 101 on the west side; and sidewalks from the Bayfront to the hospital.

It was reported that the Highway 101 Crosswalk Improvement Project will go out for bid in mid-November.

A discussion ensued regarding the Ferry Slip project, and it was noted that an open house was occurring in the next room, and that Committee Member, Chuck Forinash, was in attendance.

Kern reported that Lincoln County had placed sharrows on the Otter Crest Loop and part of the Bay Road.

Saelens reported that he will follow-up with the Lincoln County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee regarding a potential joint meeting. He added that the Lincoln County Committee needs representation from South County.

Saelens reported that he had suggested to Council that a group be formed to meet on motorized alternate transportation, and that he had gotten no reaction from Council.

## UPDATE ON MOTIONS MADE AT THE NOVEMBER 10, 2014 MEETING

1. MOTION was made by Bozza, seconded by Hogg, that staff be requested to install a bicycle rack, which holds multiple bicycles, at the Nye Beach Turnaround.

As previously noted, in his written report on the motions, Public Works Director Tim Gross wrote the following: "I have inquired with Jim Guenther, Park Maintenance Supervisor, if the City has a bicycle rack in stock that could be installed at the turn around."

The following motion was made in response to this information: MOTION was made by Hein, seconded by Bozza, that staff confirm the availability of a bike rack to install at the Nye Beach Turnaround, and to determine whether additional bike

racks are available for installation at other locations. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

2. MOTION was made by Forinash, seconded by Bozza, that staff be requested to re-establish the bike lane and associated icons on Bay Boulevard from the Embarcadero to Vista Drive, and to establish a bike lane with associated icons on the south side of Bay Boulevard from the Embarcadero to Englund Marine Supply.

As previously noted, in his written report on the motions, Public Works Director Tim Gross wrote the following: "The area will be under construction within the year to replace the storm sewer and rebuild the intersection of Bay Boulevard and Moore Drive. Staff will reevaluate the striping and pavement markings in this area as part of the design of the project."

It was the consensus of the Committee to keep this motion on the list and to postpone further discussion until the planned project occurs.

3. MOTION was made by Hogg, seconded by Forinash, that staff be requested to repaint the crosswalk on Elizabeth Street in front of Georgy's.

As previously noted, in his written report on the motions, Public Works Director Tim Gross wrote the following: "SW Case Street one block to the south of Georgy's is under construction at this time. Part of the improvements on Case Street is a sidewalk on the south side from Dutch Brothers to Highway 101 to Elizabeth Street. A pedestrian ramp will also be installed on the west side of Elizabeth Street to complete the connectivity of these two sidewalks. A mid-block pedestrian crossing will be installed on Elizabeth Street at Case Street."

It was the consensus of the Committee to keep this motion on the list and to postpone further discussion until the planned project occurs.

4. MOTION was made by Forinash, seconded by Bozza, that staff be requested to place sharrows on the uphill side of 40<sup>th</sup> Street, beginning at Chestnut Street, and continuing up the hill to the mixed use path, and on the uphill side of the street adjacent to the Coast Guard station.

As previously noted, in his written report on the motions, Public Works Director Tim Gross wrote the following: "SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street has a sidewalk on the north side connecting the multiuse path on SE Ash Street to the multiuse path on the south side of SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street, located 700 feet east of SE Ash Street. SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street is not on any designated bicycle route in any city plan, nor does it see significant volumes of bicycles. The site distance is extremely good, and there have not been any reported bicycle/vehicle accidents or injuries. The city is annually installing shared lane markings, prioritizing those installations in the areas identified in the approved Bike and Pedestrian System Master Plan, beginning with the Oregon Coast Bike Route on Oceanview Drive and Elizabeth Street. Since Public Works has limited

resources, we are intending to continue with this plan, and do not intend to install shared lane markings on SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street.

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The Bike and Pedestrian System Master Plan was completed in 2008. The landscape of Newport has changed considerably in that time and it is certainly within the purview of the Bike and Pedestrian Committee to request that Council authorize the master plan to be updated. As part of the budgeting process in FY14/15, city staff requested funds to update the Parks System Master Plan. Although funding was not approved at that time, staff will likely make this request again this coming year. It may make sense to update these plans together, considering the interconnectivity of the parks and trails systems with the proposed sidewalk, multiuse path, and bicycle route improvements.”

A discussion ensued regarding the trail from the Coast Guard station to the beach. Hein reported that there is approximately 150 yards that need to be cleared to provide good access to the north jetty. He suggested this could be a project for next year. Kern agreed to check with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee on this project. It was suggested that this would be a good project for volunteers.

It was suggested that a priority list for the installation of sharrows be developed along with a project priority list. Kern reported that no sharrows were installed on Nye Street after completion of a recent project. She clarified that this is north of Sixth Street on Nye Street, but added that Sixth Street is not ready for sharrow installation. It was asked that staff ascertain whether sharrows are in the project budgets of new and reconstruction projects. The Committee concurred that if sharrows are not included in project budgets, that this be added to the priority list. It was noted that sharrows should be installed on 40<sup>th</sup> Street; Nye Street; Sixth Street; and Bay Boulevard. It was reiterated that the next meeting should include the establishment of project priorities and sharrow installation priorities.

A discussion ensued regarding the increased speed limit on Oceanview Drive. It was asked whether the city could return the speed limit to 25 miles per hour or whether it has to remain at 35 miles per hour. MOTION was made by Hein, seconded by Bozza, that the city lower the speed limit on Oceanview Drive from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

### **SCENIC BIKE ROUTES - DISCUSSION**

It was suggested that signs reading “Newport Scenic Bike Route” be added under the Oregon Coast Bike Route signs, where they are the same route

## **REPORT ON BICYCLE AND/OR PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS DURING OCTOBER**

It was reported that information on bicycle and/or pedestrian accidents was not available prior to this meeting.

Hawker was asked to bring some of the bike maps to the next meeting.

The Committee also requested that Hawker resend the e-mail regarding scenic bike routes. It was suggested that scenic bike routes be considered a priority for next year.

## **REPORT ON BICYCLE AND/OR PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS DURING NOVEMBER**

It was reported that on November 14, 2014, at 3:48 P.M., a motor vehicle/pedestrian accident occurred on SE First Street near SE Benton Street when a pedestrian walked behind a car that was backing onto the street. There were minor injuries and no citation was issued.

It was reported that on November 21, 2014, at 11:54 A.M., a motor vehicle/pedestrian accident occurred when a driver crossed the fog line on Highway 20 and struck a pedestrian walking eastbound on the south side of the highway. The pedestrian had minor injuries, and the driver was arrested for DUII, hit and run, and reckless driving.

## **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Kern reported that she had seen a city street sweeper sweeping the bridge. Hein reported that Highway 101, north of WalMart, on the east side, has two or three inches of pine needles on the shoulder. He added that there is glass and auto parts on the shoulder near 36<sup>th</sup> Street on Highway 101.

Hogg reported that she has observed bicyclists running stop signs, but particularly at the intersection of Olive and Nye Streets.

It was noted that some of the city's police officers do not stop at crosswalks where pedestrians are waiting to cross the street unless there is a stop sign at that location.

It was asked that staff inquire as to whether there are grants available for pedestrian safety enforcement by the Police Department.

Saelens noted that Gross plans to talk with the School District about the possible removal of parking on the south side of Seventh Street. Hogg suggested better lane separation at the four-way stop. Saelens agreed to follow-up with Gross.

## **DEVELOP NEXT AGENDA**

It was agreed that the next agenda would include everything that is on the current agenda, plus scenic bike routes; establish new priority projects; update on the Ferry Slip project; and a review of existing projects.

## ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 P.M.