

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
SISTERS CITY COUNCIL
520 E. CASCADE AVENUE
AUGUST 25, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nancy Connolly Council President
Amy Burgstahler Councilor
Andrea Blum Councilor

STAFF PRESENT:

Paul Bertagna PW Director
Joe O'Neill Finance Officer
Kathy Nelson City Recorder

ABSENT:

David Asson Councilor

ABSENT:

Rick Allen City Manager
Patrick Davenport CDD Director

GUESTS:

Bob Bryant ODOT Regional Manager
Mike Darling ODOT Project Leader
Bob Townsend ODOT Construction Manager
Abbey Driscoll ODOT Community Liaison

The workshop was called to order by Council President Connolly at 6:02 p.m. She stated Other Business would be discussed first.

2. Other Business

The **Council** discussed the Planning Commission decision on the Village at Cold Spring Hayden Homes Development. **Councilor Blum** stated she would like to hear the answers to the questions raised by the two members of the Planning Commission that voted against approving the modification to the master plan and subdivision. **Councilor Burgstahler** stated she would be interested in having some discussion also. **Council President Connolly** stated after biking through the development she had no desire to revisit or call-up the Planning Commission decision. She stated the issue with narrow streets and pedestrian safety would only get worse if density increased. She noted parking was already a problem. She suggested the other Council members discuss their concerns with staff to determine if there were two Council members interested in calling the matter up for appeal.

Director Bertagna explained the subdivision was created prior to the Public Works Standards and Specifications update. He stated at the time it developed, builders were allowed to build private streets as long as the homeowners association were responsible for their upkeep. He stated the City saw the negative impacts of that decision so when the Development Code was updated, the requirement that private streets also had to meet the Public Works Standards and Specs was included. He stated all streets now had to meet the City's parking, sidewalk and storm water requirements.

1. Highway 20/Barclay Avenue Roundabout Decisions

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) staff Bob Bryant, Mike Darling, Bob Townsend and Abbey Driscoll introduced themselves.

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Director Bertagna reminded the Council ODOT Area Manager Gary Farnsworth had attended the July 14th regular meeting and provided an update on the upcoming Highway 20/Barclay Avenue roundabout project and requested the Council provide an opportunity for the public to comment prior to approval by the Council of the traffic management plan, aesthetics, and landscaping plans. He stated the workshop was to give the Council a chance to review the design details prior to construction beginning. He added the public would have the opportunity to share their comments during the regular meeting. He reported the focus groups had continued to meet and additional agencies had been contacted and engaged in determining the traffic management plans. He noted officials from Jefferson County, Black Butte Ranch, Camp Sherman and other agencies that use Sisters roads in the course of conducting business were all contacted.

Director Bertagna stated the Sisters roundabout would be the third to be built on a state highway. He reported traffic crash data continued to illustrate how much safer a roundabout was as opposed to a traffic signal, especially when transitioning from a rural to city setting. He stated the roundabout would not only make the intersection function better but would provide a safer environment for drivers, bikers and pedestrians. **Director Bertagna** reported that crash data had shown roundabouts helped alleviate distracted driving as it required drivers to pay attention when navigating so they wouldn't bump into curbs.

ODOT Project Leader Mike Darling reiterated that the process with the focus groups had been very positive as well as interactions with the agencies providing health and safety services. He stated the project had begun to transition from the design stages to the construction phase. He pointed out that Highway 20 would remain open at all times during construction and the only detours would be related to access to Barclay Drive and McKinney Butte Road. Maps illustrating the proposed detours were discussed. He stated Barclay would be closed first, and once completed, construction would move to the other side of the project and McKinney Butte would be closed. **ODOT Regional Manager Bob Bryant** stated all work would be substantially completed prior to Memorial Day. **Mr. Darling** reported sub-surface work was slated to begin in February.

Director Bertagna stated ODOT and City staff would continue to work with the School District to ensure bus routes were not disrupted. He reported the school would be continually updated as detour routes changed depending on the phase of construction.

The **Council** requested ODOT make certain area churches were alerted to the detours and to also see if there was a way to have the detours show up on mobile application maps. **ODOT Community Liaison Abbey Driscoll** stated she would follow-up on both. ODOT staff confirmed there would be adequate signage to alert drivers to a roundabout coming up.

ODOT Construction Manager Bob Townsend reported ODOT would be using the proposed site for the new Forest Service building for contractors and equipment staging. He stated one area of worry for ODOT was winter weather since it could profoundly impact the short time frame ODOT had to complete the project. He reported ODOT had gone so far as to track

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weather patterns from the previous 25 years to develop contingency plans. He stated it was vitally important to have the project as close to completion as possible prior to Memorial Day as traffic data indicated a sharp rise in traffic volumes after that date.

Mr. Darling discussed the landscaping and aesthetics noting ODOT has used the Cascade Avenue Improvement Project streetscape plan as a starting point when creating the roundabout plan. He stated the road portion of the roundabout project would be completed prior to the center art piece being ready for installation. He stated the City could choose to plant the center area until the art piece was ready to be installed. **Director Bertagna** reported the art focus group was comprised of individuals familiar with working on art for public places. He stated a call to artists would be sent out and interested artists would submit a proposal and small scale replica of their proposed piece. He stated the focus group would eventually make a recommendation to the Council and the process was expected to take 12 -18 months.

Council President Connolly thanked ODOT staff for attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Kathy Nelson, City Recorder


Nancy Connolly, Council President