

CITY OF SILVERTON  
**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

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**Silverton Community Center – Council Chambers – 421 South Water St.**

**January 29, 2020, 6:00 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Introductions**

Chair Matt Plummer called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and introductions were made.

**Transportation Advisory Committee Members Present:** Matt Plummer, City Councilor; Dodie Brockamp; Chris Linn; Molly Ainsley; Petra Schuetz, Public Works Director; and two (2) vacancies

**TSP Project Advisory Committee Members Present:** Dan Fricke, ODOT; Janelle Shanahan, Marion County; Bill Miles, Silverton Fire District; Charles Baldwin, Friends of Eastside Trails; Jim Sears, City Councilor; and Jeff Fossholm, Chief of Police

**Staff Present:** Jason Gottgetreu, Community Development Director and Angela Speier, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Member Chris Linn made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 26, 2018. Member Molly Ainsley seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed (5-0).

**III. Public Comment**

Stacy Posegate, 924 Barger Street. Stacy Posegate hopes to be more involved with the Transportation System Plan (TSP). She would like to see more bike paths, because currently a person cannot bike safely throughout the city. She asked where the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) is in the adoption process and understands there are number of projects to consider. Tonight she wanted to impart the importance of biking and share her disappointment that her kids cannot bike from her home to their school safely. Additional bike paths can help reduce bus and vehicular traffic in the morning. The City should look at biking as an overall solution to its transportation needs. She said there are some great bicycle projects on the proposed list and asked the TAC to convey the importance of biking to City Council.

Chair Plummer provided the background of the Silverton Bike Committee and how it evolved into the TAC. He described the process for ranking the projects and how City Council has approved five projects to fund within the TSP. The meeting tonight is to review those projects and determine the next steps in the process. He sees the TAC working on ways to fill gaps between the larger more costly projects. Ms. Posegate voiced her concern with the amount of time the process has taken so far and the long break between TAC meetings. Chair Plummer explained throughout last year a subgroup was scoring and ranking the projects identified in the TSP.

Member Baldwin explained the Bike Committee recommendations were embraced by the TAC. He further explained why the process has taken longer than expected which was due to the TSP Project Advisory Committee wanting to take over the project ranking process from the consultants. Councilor Sears was able to develop a new scoring process which has now been completed and resulted in a commitment by the City Council to allocate dedicated funds to bike and pedestrian projects. He further explained the work Sustainable Silverton is doing regarding transportation options in the community and how Ms. Posegate could become involved with their effort.

Astrid Potter, 109 Cherry Street. Astrid Potter reviewed the meeting packet and said she did not see any proposed bike routes to get from McClaine Street to downtown. Also the downtown core does not have

an area for bicycles and is not ADA compliant. She urged the committee to address those issues at the same time. Chair Plummer said there is a possibility to look at lower scaled improvements for downtown that could involve different options for road markings. These are the types of smaller projects the TAC will be looking at once the TSP and Circulation Study are completed.

#### **IV. Project Prioritization Review**

Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu explained how a subgroup made up of himself, Councilor Plummer, Councilor Sears, and Public Works Director Petra Schuetz weighted and ranked 147 transportation related projects. He distributed an updated map and a list of the bike, pedestrian and off-street improvement projects. These projects were presented to the City Council along with existing funding streams and five projects that could realistically be funded within five years. The current budget allocates \$100,000 for these types of projects; this scenario assumes the same allocation over the five year period for a total of \$500,000. He explained there are other projects that ranked higher on the prioritization list, but those projects were larger in scale and could not be funded with the current budget allocation. It is important to list the larger scale projects in the TSP, because it helps justify the need when staff applies for grant funding. The members discussed the five projects and how they are still in the high level conceptual phase. More details about each of the projects would need to be worked through the design phase.

#### **V. Circulation Plan**

Public Works Director Petra Schuetz explained the next step in the process is to adopt the TSP, because this will allow the City Council to determine funding levels for the projects and for staff to pursue grant funding. It will also determine how much of each project can be funded with System Development Charges (SDC).

Director Schuetz will be reengaging with DKS the engineering firm the City contracted with for the TSP update. Staff will need to renegotiate some of the contract components, including receiving a draft financial plan in order to have a better idea of the cost for a few of the top rated projects in the TSP. DKS will also be finalizing the TSP for City Council approval. She provided an update on some of the current transportation projects the City has been working on over the last year; including, South Water Street sidewalks, the Jefferson Street Crossing, and McClaine Street. Staff will be presenting City Council with the 90 percent engineering details for McClaine Street in order to receive their endorsement of the project and funding in the next fiscal year budget beginning July 1, 2020. This project will cost \$6.1-\$7.1 million and will utilize the vast majority of street, sidewalk, and bike path funding resources.

Director Schuetz explained the TSP update did not include a circulation component in the scope of work. She felt this was a necessary step in order to provide information about key access points, where the redundancies in the system are, and to learn how people are getting around. She referred the members to the scope of work and a map of the dead end streets in Silverton. The dead end streets have created circulation issues and increased traffic into downtown. The Circulation Plan will give the City data on where future connections can be made as development occurs, as well as some retrofit projects that can help with circulation. The Circulation Plan can be incorporated into the TSP as part of a refinement plan or a sub plan. The two engineering firms will work together to get the two plans incorporated. Once the draft plan is finalized the TAC and TSP Project Advisory Committee will have an opportunity to review it at the next meeting.

Member Baldwin voiced his frustration with the lack of meetings and citizen involvement in the prioritization process. He would like staff to provide assurance moving forward the citizens on the committee will be involved in the process and informed on the work being done. Director Schuetz said staff will work to engage the members better moving forward. She also described the two different committees participating in the meeting tonight and the public outreach done in 2015 when the process first began. Member Baldwin asked how the recommendation of a trail system at the Pettit Property fits into this process. Director Schuetz said the Parks Master Plan has been budgeted for this year, but is

waiting for the green light to move forward. A comprehensive look at a trail system will be addressed in the Parks Master Plan.

Member Ainsley asked if parking has been incorporated into the TSP. Chair Plummer said there was not parking projects listed in the 147 projects that were ranked. The TAC will have an opportunity to look at projects that might not have been included after the TSP is adopted. Member Ainsley asked how safety was factored into the rating system. The subgroup explained safety was highly weighted.

#### **VI. Next Steps**

The TAC and the TSP Project Advisory Committee will review the combined draft TSP and Circulation Plan at their next meeting. This will allow the members to provide comments on the two plans prior to them going before City Council. Staff is hopeful the draft document will be ready for review by April. Once the TSP is adopted the Project Advisory Committee will dissolve, but the TAC will continue meeting as an Advisory Committee to City Council.

Director Schuetz said she will send updates to the committee between meetings in order to keep the members informed on what is happening with the plans. Chair Plummer said staff will look at scheduling quarterly TAC meetings moving forward.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

*/s/Angela Speier, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk*