

**Planning Commission Meeting
Springwater Trail Conference Room
Gresham City Hall
August 8, 2016 - 6:30 p.m.**

I. Opening/Citizen Comments

A regular session of the Gresham Planning Commission was called to order by Vice-Chair Jef Kaiser on the 8th of August 2016, at 6:30 PM in the Springwater Trail Conference Room at Gresham City Hall located at 1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham Oregon. Minutes were prepared by Tammy Richardson.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Richard Anderson (late arrival)
Paul Drechsler
Jef Kaiser, Vice-Chair
Laura Pramuk
Sue Ruonala
Phil Wich

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Stephen Butler
Hermann Colas, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Martin, Urban Design & Planning
David Ross, City Attorney's Office

COUNCIL LIAISONS PRESENT: Councilor French

II. General Comment Period

No one wished to speak at this time.

III. Work Session

Active Transportation Plan Presentation

Brian Martin introduced Rachel Banks, Deputy Director of Multnomah County Public Parks Division, attending the meeting this evening. Her focus is on strategy planning and equity. Mr. Martin presented a PowerPoint and shared information about the Active Transportation Plan. The Active Transportation Plan is a city-wide project that will provide a detailed plan for active transportation to guide future improvements for walking and biking. It is important to provide people with choices about how to get around and to make routes safer and more comfortable to

ride a bicycle and walk. This project is a follow up to the recently updated Transportation System Plan (TSP).

Mr. Martin noted that the project will include an inventory of the city's active transportation network; updating the existing bike network from the TSP and identifying gaps in those networks; compiling a list of projects to address gaps and complete the active transportation network; establish criteria for how to prioritize project to improve the networks; updating vision and goals for City programs related to active transportation; creating feasible design options; and provide inclusive public engagement to involve a wide variety of people.

Mr. Martin said there will be a comprehensive public engagement plan with many opportunities for public participation. An online survey is also available at www.GreshamOregon.gov/ATP. The project is funded through a community health grant going through the county and partially to the City.

Rachel Banks provided information to the Commission about health connections as well as some detail about the equity approach and what the REACH grant is funding.

Planning Commission Discussion/Highlights

Important details to consider:

- Connecting the neighborhoods surrounding the Rockwood Rising project
- First Street connection to Fred Meyer, Winco, and Oregon Trail shopping center needs to be improved
- Need for lower-stress bicycle routes
- Plans need to include access by wheelchairs and motorized scooters
- Need better pedestrian connections at 181st and Glisan and at 181st and Burnside, along the transit line
- Need sidewalks near senior housing

Things that are working well include:

- Look at Portland's bike boxes and green-lanes; they seem to work well
- Flashing beacons at marked crosswalks – need more of them in heavy traffic areas
- Neighborhood greenways in Portland are nice

Other desired improvements and things to consider:

- Good pedestrian and bike connections to the Springwater Trail, particularly in the Powell Valley and Kelly Creek neighborhoods
- Continuous sidewalk connection to the Springwater Trail from Regner and Hogan Roads
- Provide better sidewalk connections from Persimmon area to nearby buttes and the Springwater Trail
- Extension of the MAX path to Hogan near the PGE property
- Put landscape strips between sidewalks and curbs
- Not enough sidewalks between 223rd and 242nd on Stark Street
- Consider sidewalks on Jenne Road
- Fill in missing sidewalks on Butler and Regner and along Towle
- Install mile posts along trails

General comments:

- More bicycle parking at grocery stores
- People may not be interested in using bicycles to buy groceries
- Look at platinum bike standards to help progress in bikeway designations
- There are no sidewalks south of the fire station on Pleasant View
- Curb tight sidewalks are not pedestrian friendly
- Online survey is a nice tool
- 182nd and Powell near Safeway and Walmart is difficult to cross
- Cars travel at high speeds on 282nd and there are no sidewalks or sidewalks are too tight to the curb
- Lack of sidewalks and shoulders on Williams Road
- Too many traffic crashes on Kane and Division
- Tunnels under I-84 at 162nd are blocked – can they be opened?
- Many areas where ped/bike conditions are challenging

The Commission feels the project is very important and is glad to see it in progress. The Commission thanked staff and Ms. Banks for the presentation

IV. Other Business/Adjournment

July 11, 2016 Planning Commission Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve the July 11, 2016 minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously, with Commissioner Drechsler abstaining due to absence from that meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Chairperson

Recording Assistant

Date

Date