

Stakeholder Advisory Committee, Meeting #6

DATE: July 27, 2009

ATTENDEES: Mark Elston, Tom Weber, David Mattison, Larry McKinley, Norm Myers, Jan Stewart, Willard Berry, Matt Mumford, Tony Snyder, Ingrid Weisenbach, Norm Rauscher, Mark Gervasi, Butch Parker, Liane Welch, Joanna Ridgway, Kristin Hull, Linda Girard

GUESTS: Gus Meyer, Alene Allen, Donna Jacobs, Carol and George Langlois, Mike and Niki Sheldon

LOCATION: Oregon Dept. of Forestry Conference Room, 5003 3rd Street

Welcome and Introductions

Kristin Hull welcomed the group and asked for self-introductions. She briefly summarized the agenda which will include reviewing the lane widening options and confirming the alternatives to carry forward. The meeting summary from the fifth meeting was approved with no corrections or additions.

Public Comment

There was no comment

Confirm Alternatives to Carry Forward

Kristin said that Options C3 and C4 had been tentatively carried forward. Each has a new structure northbound and 4 lanes going west on First Street. She said that C1 was initially discarded because traffic performance at First and Main and Third and Main intersections was not as good. However, it has the advantage of not losing parking on Third. Attendees at the Farmers' Market project booth and the business owners' meeting initially favored retaining C3 and C4.

Kristin suggested dropping C3 and studying C1 and C4 based on concerns from business owners about maintaining parking on 3rd Street. Mike Sheldon asked if there are any other options that wouldn't take out 5 businesses but was told that all the options impact the businesses near the northeast corner of 1st and Main. Kristin asked if C1 and C4 provided a reasonable range of alternatives to carry forward and she pointed out that they incorporate attention to parking and that we're not yet ready to only move forward alternatives with parking changes. Tony said we need to consider what is best for Hwy 101 and is confident that

off-street parking will somehow be sorted out. Ingrid Weisenbach added that Larry McKinley (Region manager) also wants to work it out.

Kristin asked if there were any outstanding concerns about options C1 and C4 and comments included concern about the sight distance of the movement from Pacific onto First, concern about the truck impacts of C1, concerns that moving parking away from businesses will discourage customers from stopping, and comment that there needs to be continued outreach to property owners.

Jan Stewart expressed her concern that we're not creating enough information soon enough. Are we communicating "richly" enough with adequate details? Or are some people just not keeping up? Tony Snyder and Kristin have talked to several business owners and have plans to speak with every property owner as well. Ingrid noted that all the information regarding the project, access issues, etc. is on the web site and, in addition, information has been disseminated in letters, newsletters, and site visits.

Cross-section concepts

The proposal is to widen the lanes on Main and Pacific to address the main problem downtown. The committee, Farmers' Market attendees and business owners (at their July 8 meeting) all preferred the third option which would widen the roads on both sides, narrow the sidewalks, and maintain parking. The committee agreed to move forward with this decision.

Access Management

Kristin said that access management is a major issue for ODOT which is why we are required to do an access management plan. Management issues will be negotiated between individual property owners and ODOT and they are not something this stakeholder committee will decide. Kristin referred to the "Figure 1" handout, OR 6 and US 101 Approach Locations and noted that some of the parcels identified for further discussion are red with blue circles which means that the profile of the bridge across the Hoquarten Slough will need to be defined before access issues can be determined.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Conclusion and Next Steps

The process forward will include continuing to meet with business and property owners and the project team will develop more detailed designs.

The next meeting will be in the fall where the Environmental Assessment process will be discussed and then there will be a hiatus while the environmental group does its work.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.