



## MEETING MINUTES

### DESCHUTES COUNTY BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, July 10, 12:00 to 1:30 pm

ODOT, 63055 N Hwy 97, Building M, Baney Conference Room, Bend

**Members Present:** Jennifer Letz, David Green, Bob Nash, Wendy Holzman, Meghan Windschill, Kim Curley, David Roth, Pat Addabbo, Diane Flowers

**Agency/Organization:** Tanya Saltzman (Deschutes County), Chris Cheng (ODOT), Chris Blake (City of Bend), Derek Hofbauer (CET/COIC), Aoibhe Richardson (Commute Options)

#### Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

#### Introductions

Attendees of the meeting introduced themselves and, if applicable, identified the organization they represent.

#### Approval of Prior Minutes

The June 2025 minutes were approved, with a minor change to meeting location.

#### Committee Business

- Safe Sidewalks – awards were handed out at BOCC meeting, went well. Three or four recipients attended in person. Tanya mailed the remaining certificates to winners who did not attend in person.
- Annual Report – David summarized the presentation; noted that they brought up the concern for Tumalo underpass and possibility of ribbon cutting event; seemed to be positively received by the BOCC

#### Working group updates

Outreach: It appears that the County website in general is not going to be updated, so we are limited to the template we currently have.

Community connections: This topic is to enhance communication with other groups around town about transportation projects. Currently BPAC maintains ongoing communication with La Pine,

Sisters, and Redmond. Lack depth with City of Bend, Deschutes County, CET, ODOT. Hoping to schedule a deep dive with those orgs at least once a year. David and Kim to meet to look at potential topics and groups.

- Need more engagement with County Road Dept. Tanya to reach out to Tarik and Chris; consider a meeting out there at Road Dept offices

Transit: No updates but David G. had a great experience during Try Transit Week.

New and improved "Hero" awards: no update but should get on things soon as fall is rapidly approaching.

## **External Committee Reports**

### COACT

- No meeting until September

### MPO TAC

- Will be very involved in FLAP projects, working with state to prioritize projects.
- Bend to Lava Butte trail is through remand process. Planning to start construction in 2026, but costs might be out of line with initial estimates due to time passing and related inflation

## **Other Updates**

### COIC/CET

- Derek provided update on Try Transit week, presented a slide show:
  - 26% ridership increase from same period last year
  - 5,775 total riders; 1,200 more riders than 2024
  - 347 riders during expanded hours
- New logo has been revealed!
- Summer recreation services: raised prices slightly
- Route 8 pilot project: starts July 14; accesses Pine Nursery, express route up to Robal Rd Village, then down to Hawthorne. Calling it a pilot route for now, which provides more flexibility with respect to making minor adjustments, as well as funding/fare requirements.
- August 7 meeting re: fares for public comment with COIC board.

### Bend

- Started paving/grinding on 8<sup>th</sup> Street

- Bear Creek roundabout started construction
- Starting bike-ped path from 27<sup>th</sup> to Reed Market
- Late fall might be the best time for Bend reps to come in and speak to BPAC, hopefully they will be in new facilities by then.

### Sisters

- Soft opening for new transit center: CET added a stop; RV dump station; will be a small dog park (for small dogs). Grand opening to follow once they finesse some final details.
- Looking for synergies with CET to promote bus usage during midday/non rush hour times (for bike riding, shopping, tourism etc.) and promoting expanded hours in general
- Just approved funding for Adams Ave streetscape improvements, beginning in fall
- Finished Phase 1 of Barclay improvements
- Elm Street bike path: will connect with Petersen Ridge trail system. However, minor delay as they have to change bridge builders so TBD.

### Redmond

- Met with Redmond PD in July to discuss pedestrian safety. Going to partner to advocate for more rapid flashing beacons. Combined with Safe Routes to School, there will be improvements in ped safety
- Figuring out sidewalk infrastructure inventory project
- Thanks to Kim Curley for providing helmets for National Night Out

### ODOT

- \$354 million state highway fund hole due to failure of bill to pass
  - Other repercussions of bill failure: Cut 449 empty positions, and cut 483 active positions at ODOT
  - Chris's position was on the list but he will still be here for now due to seniority; but coworker in Region 3 was eliminated
  - Entire crew in Sisters will be laid off as well as several points east
  - TBD on future projects. Freezing consultant contracts. Freezing travel, sponsors.
  - There may be potential for a special session to be called to remedy this.
- Project updates (with huge caveats):

- OBPAC coming to Bend July 22 1pm-4 pm; we are all invited. Will also do informal social hour at 5 pm. Dave Thomson will be there!
- Chris will do a bike tour for OBPAC on July 23 morning 9-12, focusing on ODOT North Corridor, double lane roundabouts
- Bend-Sisters-Redmond planning: hoping to have consultant on board, have chosen consultant but are working through statement of costs and TBD re: funding freezes
- La Pine path: Lawsuit did not move forward so trying to figure out if funding can be added.
- Oregon Community Paths grants were awarded, should have some great projects:
  - OR 126 path extension to Oasis Village; Bend Juniper Elementary to Larkspur
  - Perhaps some paths in Prineville if others fall through
  - Safe Routes received funding for US97 multiuse path to Desert Terrace Mobile Estates; new enhanced crossing in Redmond area

#### Commute Options:

- Still accepting applications for e-bike rebates. Must be 18+, resident of Bend, Pacific Power customer, at or below 80% AMI and complete e-bike safety course
- Safe Routes to School have been at some summer camps doing bike safety workshops (Environmental Center and BPRD)
- In-person e-bike safety classes soon. First at Ride2U, second will be at Bend Electric Bikes. All info is on website
- New website launched—please check it out

#### General comments:

Diane had question about paving treatments for Hwy 20. When do they use which treatment? Chris explained that it depends on conditions. If no rutting, can do a slurry seal. If there's a lot of cracks, will do more of a chipseal.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:32 pm**

#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, August 7 – 12:00 to 1:30 pm – ODOT, 63055 N Hwy 97, Building M, Baney Conference Room, Bend