

# Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: December 12, 2017

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Location: Messiah Lutheran Church  
3718 Rattlesnake Drive  
Missoula, MT 59802

Attendees: Bob Giordano (Co-chair), Tom Carlson (Secretary), Tom Jenkins, Cathy Stewart, Karen Gasvoda (City of Missoula Office of Neighborhoods)

**Next Meeting: January 9, 2018, 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Location to be determined.**

1. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

*Bob informed the committee that, after reviewing the results of a traffic analysis and public input, city staff and the Riverfront Neighborhood Council have endorsed Option 1C to change 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> streets between Russell and Higgins to one lane of vehicle traffic with a designated bicycle lane.*

2. Approval of [November 8, 2017](#) meeting minutes. - *Approved*

3. Approval of Agenda – *Approved with items for discussion prioritized by \* . Agenda items not marked with \* were not discussed.*

4. \* Connecting trails, Clark Fork to Recreation Area - *Note – Please see minutes from the November 8, 2017 committee meeting referencing the discussion with Donna Gaukler Director of Missoula parks and Recreation.*

*Hans provided the committee with a list of property owners along the suggested route where easements or rights-of way are needed. The committee was asked to identify any known contacts among the owners for possible neighbor to neighbor discussions. Cathy Stewart indicated that she was acquainted with the owners of property at 4320 Duncan Road and would be willing to make contact.*

- *Karen will check into how fences were used to protect private property along other trails such as Grant Creek and Milwaukee Road.*

*Actions - The committee discussed possible approaches needed to move forward with the actions discussed at the November meeting and determined the following priorities:*

- *Identify low-hanging fruit; connections to existing trails and quiet streets that are most feasible.*
  - *Tom C. will review existing city plans and extract relevant projects for further discussion by the committee.*
  - *The committee will propose a survey of neighborhood residents to help identify what trail connections are needed and where. After questions are developed the survey may be conducted using the neighborhood council meeting reminder post card to direct recipients to an on-line survey URL and/or the neighborhood list-serv.*
  - *Tom J. and Bob will contact the Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council Leadership Teams to discuss the survey proposal.*

*The committee will still need to prepare a collaborative map indicating currently used routes and needed connections.*

5. \*Bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety – Broadway/Van Buren  
The committee has previously discussed and commented on the design for this intersection as well as the reconstructed I-90/Van Buren Street roundabouts. The Montana Department of Transportation responded to the most recent committee letter (see October 10, 2017 and November 8, 2017 meeting minutes) regarding bike lane design adjustments on northbound Van Buren to allow for a wider multi-use path on the west side of Van Buren, south of I-90. . MDT will not eliminate the bike lane but will minimize the width.
6. \* Intersection of Greenough, Spruce, Madison, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. / railroad tracks  
*City Traffic Services has installed a “Do Not Block Intersection” sign and plans to add turn lanes on northbound Madison Ave. when street striping resumes in the spring of 2018.*
7. \* Concerns for traffic during the 2018 summer reconstruction of Van Buren Street and the I-90 interchange  
*Current plans indicate that Van Buren Street from Holly Street north to Missoula Ave. will be closed for reconstruction during at the same time as construction of the I-90/Van Buren Street roundabouts which will divert a high volume of traffic to Lolo Street and Greenough Drive.*
8. \* Transit service improvements, including snow issues at bus stops  
*This item was previously discussed at the October 10, 2017 committee meeting. Currently bus stops are not routinely cleared of snow but Mtn. line does respond to citizen requests as needed.*  
  
*Action: Bob will draft a letter to Mtn. Line requesting routine clearing of snow from bus stop areas. Depending on the response from Mtn. Line the committee could consider other options such as establishing an “Adopt-A-Stop” program that utilizes citizen volunteers to shovel snow.*
9. Alvina to Lolo Street (on Greenough Drive) bike and walkways
10. \* Van Buren/Front intersection safety  
*This intersection continues to be a hazard for bicyclists and pedestrians. Vehicles traveling east on Front Street and turning north onto Van Buren have a free turn across the busy pedestrian and bicycle path. Previous to the recent curb and gutter work there was a stop sign for eastbound Front Street traffic that helped mitigate this hazard. A suggestion was made to propose surveying use at this intersection during the next city traffic count (spring 2018).*  
  
*Action – Tom J. will draft a letter to the Upper and Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Leadership teams to advise them of the continuing problem and suggest possible actions.*
11. Vine/Greenough trail entry safety
12. Psyllium and sustainable paving Greenough Park
13. Pentachlorophenol safety issue on Greenough Bridge
14. Madison pedestrian bridge to Greenough Park connection

15. Improve the turnoff for northbound bikes from Van Buren onto Missoula Avenue
16. Bulbouts and bicycle safety at Rattlesnake School
17. Bicycle and pedestrian safety along Lincoln Hills.
18. Lack of parking for the Syringa Park bike park and the soccer fields along Lincoln Hills Drive
19. Discussion of Long Range Transportation Plan and Bicycle Facilities Master Plan letters
20. Winter walkway and bikeway maintenance
21. Madison Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project
22. Moving of the railway yard out of its present location
23. Need for Griz game day parking restrictions
24. Need for roundabout at the intersection of Lolo Street and Rattlesnake Drive
25. Driver confusion with the three-way stop at the Rattlesnake Drive/Lincolnwood intersection

Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator  
Karen Gasvoda, Program Assistant  
Upper Rattlesnake Leadership Team  
Lower Rattlesnake Leadership Team

[jkelly@ci.missoula.mt.us](mailto:jkelly@ci.missoula.mt.us) 552-6081  
[kgasvoda@ci.missoula.mt.us](mailto:kgasvoda@ci.missoula.mt.us) 552-6084  
[upperrattlesnake@missoula-neighborhoods.org](mailto:upperrattlesnake@missoula-neighborhoods.org)  
[lowerrattlesnake@missoula-neighborhoods.org](mailto:lowerrattlesnake@missoula-neighborhoods.org)