

From: [Melanie Kebler](#)
To: [Karen Swirsky](#)
Subject: Comment for TSP Steering Committee today May 21
Date: Thursday, May 21, 2020 9:49:18 AM

Hello TSP Steering Committee,

I write in strong support of the goals and policies that CTAC has developed for our TSP. Today the TSP should move forward with the policy section and should choose NOT to reopen the goals that have already been approved, except for minor clarity edits.

I recognize that the Steering Committee ultimately has the authority to change or modify the chapters that have been put together after hundreds of hours of work, blood, sweat, and tears by the members of CTAC, most of whom are not compensated for their time on this crucial project. I ask today that the Steering Committee respect the work of the CTAC, which included public input and created a strong, balanced approach to our transportation system's future. Taking the action today to reopen and fully relitigate goals that were carefully crafted by CTAC and approved by this Steering Committee in fall of 2018 sends the wrong message about how we respect the work of our fellow residents when they step up to do the hard work of crafting detailed local policy that will guide our future for decades to come. That is a weighty responsibility. CTAC took it seriously. I now ask you to take their work product seriously. Please do not open the goals or policies to any modification that will undermine the intent and work of CTAC. Please follow the recommendations of staff, which are well thought out and point out where suggestions by just two of your Committee membership would create more problems than solutions. It is time to move forward with this part of our TSP.

I believe we cannot build our way out of construction and that simply widening roads will not solve our congestion problems. I believe that we should set bold goals when it comes to safety and send the message that we will work especially hard to protect the most vulnerable users of our transportation system from harm. I believe that we should recognize the value of getting people out of their cars and into other modes of travel via foot, bike, or transit - this is good for our environment, for resident health, and for our economy. I believe overall the work CTAC has done will move our TSP forward in a way that will be more equitable for users of our system and, ultimately, better for Bend.

The TSP goals were approved in 2018 after Steering Committee discussion and modification. CTAC worked from those goals for the past two years to create a robust draft TSP. They worked hard. They haggled and compromised. They came together to give you a product the community can get behind. Please do not undermine their work at this late hour. Please listen to staff when they recommend against almost all of the changes that have been suggested.

Thank you,
Melanie Kebler
Bend Resident, Candidate for Position 1