Transportation Bond Oversight Committee (TBOC)
July 27, 2021

Attendees:

TBOC Members: LeeAnn O'Neill (Chair); Scott Robinson (Vice-Chair); Dave Howe; Denise LaBuda; Mason Lacy; Sean Perkins; Courtney Van Fossen; Travis Widdifield; Sharlene Wills; Iman Nazeeri-Simmons (*4:52 PM*)

Ex Officio: Henry Stroud – Bend Park & Recreation District; Andrea Breault, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council; Sharon Smith – Bend La Pine School District; David Amiton, Oregon Department of Transportation

Staff: Sinclair Burr; Elizabeth Oshel **Facilitator**: Joe Dills – Angelo Planning Group, Matt Kittelson – Kittelson & Associates

Council Liaisons: Councilor Melanie Kebler

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM.

1. **Meeting Minutes Approval**
   The June 29 meeting minutes were approved with a spelling correction.

2. **Public Comment**
   a. **Written Comments:**
      - A statement of support for the Mendez/Broadman proposal was submitted.
      - James Teeter submitted comments regarding the Midtown Bicycle & Pedestrian Crossing projects.
      - Richard Ross submitted comments regarding the Wilson/15th Project
      - Written comment was received from Ariel Mendez. It will be addressed during the agenda item reserved for proposals outside the project list.

   b. **Verbal Comments:**
      - Richard Ross expressed appreciation for the Wilson/15th Project and intelligent transportation systems/signal optimization. Mr. Ross opined the Residential Street Safety Improvements Program is fundamental for making Bend livable. Concern was expressed about cut-through traffic on residential streets. He suggested to make mobility hubs the core of the transit system and establish high capacity transit corridors.
      - Neil Baunsgard shared support of the adopted evaluation criteria, including the addition of the bicycle and pedestrian section, and hopes that it's followed when prioritizing projects.

3. **Finalize Evaluation Criteria**

   The Evaluation Criteria revisions were presented in sections for discussion.

   In response to a question, it was stated that the July 2023 deadline might drive certain design decisions. However, the schedule aligns with Council's goal to complete one north/south and one east/west key route within this Council goal period.

Regarding sidewalk network completeness, it was suggested to define "gap". It was agreed to leave the language as written but clearly define a gap when reporting the evaluation.

If the 2023 deadline hinders or compromises other metrics and goals, it was suggested that the committee bring those concerns to Council's attention.

In response to a question, the data currently being used is the census tract maps that was shared for the Wilson project. The City's Office of Performance Management is developing a GIS tool to show project locations and the census tract data.

Concern was shared regarding the phrasing of good, better, and best for the project evaluation approach. It was suggested that the empty circle rating and description does not resonate with 'good' and that the phrasing may need to be reconsidered.

By a show of hands, there was consensus to move forward with the revised Evaluation Criteria. A final version will be prepared and posted for everyone to access. A copy of the final version was requested and will be made available in Braille.

4. Project Overview

Twenty-three major projects were presented from the 2020 Transportation GO Bond. Slides were shared showing cost estimates and maps of project locations.

Discussion ensued regarding each of the twenty-three major projects.

In response to a question, the City is currently updating its Comprehensive Sewer Master Plan (CSMP), which will help identify a good timeline for the Central Interceptor Project.

A suggestion was made to provide cost savings data for grouping projects together.

In response to a question, right-of-way acquisition expenses are included in forecasted project estimate calculations.

A discussion ensued about the Deschutes River trail at Mt. Washington Dr.

The project management team will begin conversations with Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) and North Unit Irrigation District (NUID) to verify if there are any plans to pipe nearby canals.

A suggestion was made to coordinate with the Fire Department during construction.

There's an opportunity for public-private partnership to pursue funding for the Hawthorne Avenue Overcrossing Project.

The ODOT Scoping Report for the pedestrian & bicycle overcrossing was recently shared with committee members.

The All Roads Transportation Safety (ARTS) funding will look at different configurations for the Greenwood Corridor west of 3rd Street.

Concern was expressed regarding bicyclists taking alternative routes around the bike route section from Norton Ave. to Pilot Butte Middle School due to its steep incline.

Sinclair Burr stated that he will work with the TBOC Chair and Vice-Chair regarding the Neff & Purcell Intersection.

A discussion ensued regarding how funding will be prioritized and allocated for projects using a traffic engineering consultant and TBOC's role in the process.

The intent is to have public engagement with every project at an early enough design stage to allow the opportunity to influence the design process.

In response to a question, David Amiton will research and report back on why there isn't any ODOT funding for the Murphy Parkway Ramps Project.

5. Proposals Outside Project List

TBOC and/or City Staff cannot change the projects listed under the Transportation GO bond without a "Council Action". TBOC can empower the Chair or Vice-Chair to write a letter to Council recommending a change to the project list if the list is not consistent with Council Goals or the Transportation System Plan (TSP). However, if a project hasn't been identified in the TSP and is not on a key route, it would require going back to the TSP to make an update to the City of Bend Comprehensive Plan.

Addressing Ariel Mendez's written comment, the Bend Bikeway Draft Proposal Map was presented to depict locations where the proposal overlaps key routes with and without a near-term project in the existing Transportation GO Bond project list.

It was suggested to add existing trails to the Bend Bikeway Draft Proposal Map to identify areas where proposed routes follow an existing trail, as well as where other existing trails may serve as alternative routes. This will also help to identify gaps in the proposed network and may set the committee up for a better position to recommend additional projects to Council.

Through consensus, a small working group was formed to meet before the next TBOC meeting to enhance the Bend Bikeway Draft Proposal Map, collect data, and look for opportunities of synergy between the Broadman/Mendez proposal and the sideboards established. The working group will report back as an agenda item at the next TBOC meeting. Volunteers for this working group were Chair LeeAnn O'Neill, Vice-Chair Scott Robinson, Denise LaBuda, Mason Lacy, and Courtney Van Fossen.

The next scheduled TBOC meeting is Tuesday, August 31, 2021.

6. Public Comment
No public Comment

7. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Coleman
Administrative Support Specialist