



Roads Advisory Committee (RAC)

MINUTES

BENTON COUNTY ROADS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) January 16, 2018

Avery Large Conference Room

360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis, Oregon

Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm by Ed Gerding

Members Present: Ken Dryden, Ed Gerding, Keith Hastings, George Long and John Luna

Members Absent: Chuck Kratch, Kenny Reynolds and Rick Robinson

Staff Present: Laurel Byer, Fred Gomez, Kathy Goss (Recorder), Joe Kerby, George Looney and Jim Stouder

- I. Approval of December 19, 2017 Minutes: JLuna moved to accept the December Minutes; KHastings seconded. Motion carried.
- II. Old Business:
 - Engineering Monthly Activity Report: LByer reviewed the report.
 - Agency Reports: LByer reviewed the report.
 - 2017 Completed Activity and Project List: JStouder handed out the list and stated there has been great cooperation with Engineering and outside contractors to complete these projects.
- III. New Business:
 - Bridges: Fred Gomez shared a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Benton County Bridge Program - 2017 Projects and Beyond"
 - Bridge Program Overview:
 - Benton County maintains and manages 101 concrete, steel and timber bridges.
 - Between 1956 and 1965, 69 bridges were built, 43 were made of timber.
 - 2017 Bridge Construction Project Recap:
 - Hayden Bridge, Crescent Valley Bridge, Alpine Bridge and Airport Bridge
 - 2018 Bridge Projects:
 - Tum Tum Bridge and Mary's River Bridge
 - Bridge Hydraulic Considerations:
 - Hydraulic analysis is a component of each bridge project.
 - The objective is always "no-rise" for the 100 year flood.
 - In certain areas of the County, flooding is unavoidable.
 - In some cases, backwater is generated for miles from downstream structures.
 - Bridgework alone cannot eliminate flooding.
 - Millions of dollars of roadwork would be required to eliminate flooding.
 - Improvements are made for flow conveyance on each project.
 - Rigorous floodplain analysis and documentation is provided to FEMA for approval

- Future Federally Funded Projects:
 - ODOT distributes federal funds for local agency bridge projects.
 - The County contributes a 10% match.
 - Projects are ranked and selected based on an equation that considers the following: sufficiency rating, load rating, average daily traffic, and detour length/sole access.
 - Conclusions:
 - Timber rot creates unanticipated issues and makes it difficult to confidently predict future bridge structural capacity.
 - Securing funding is the number one hurdle we must overcome.
 - In-house bridge design and construction is unique to this County, and provides cost savings.
 - Question: Any long term plan to address all the bridges? A bridge evaluation was done in 2015 with three alternative options. The ten year bridge replacement schedule is on the website.
 - Question: Are any bridges included in the MPO? No, the County hasn't pursued funding for bridges through the MPO.
- SW 53rd Overpass Status and Simulation: LByer showed a video created by the consultant.
 - The existing SW 53rd St. would be removed under the railroad trestle to allow for Dunawi Creek and a pedestrian path. A cul-de-sac would be installed at the north end to serve the houses off of Cherry Ave. Eventually the landscaping and trees would grow to obscure the fill.
 - Background: The County has been looking at this project since 1971. In 1985, the study determined to go over the railroad, rather than under it. In 2012, the BOC directed the County to pursue this project.
 - Reasons for currently looking at the project include: new environmental regulations, advances in construction methods, raising the tracks became a feasible option, a need to update costs and benefits, and development is happening at a larger scale in that area.
 - Funding is the biggest obstacle and it is complicated because of the amount; \$8 million is too small for some grants, but too large for others. The County recently found funds (MPO) to purchase the right of way which gave this project some traction. The right of way has been obtained, but the County still needs to seek more funds through a grant or other means.
 - LByer indicated that to create a new at-grade application would take a great amount of time with little chance of it being approved.
 - Is this included in the TSP? Yes – it is in the current TSP; however, the update to the TSP has not yet discussed future projects. Additional project info is on the website.
 - Joe Kerby: Update of Public Works Director
 - He apologized that the media had printed issues before it could be shared with employees and committees.
 - Joe is currently acting as the Director of Public Works along with the assistance of the Public Works Department Managers.
 - The position was posted on January 8th and will close on February 5th.
 - Initial interviews will be held in March, with someone possibly hired in April. There will be an open house for employees and this Committee to meet the final candidates.
 - An update will be provided next month.

- Election of Officers: MOTION: KHastings moved to postpone elections until next month; JLuna seconded and the Motion carried.
- Dust Control: – JLuna would like to have the EIAC Committee do a deeper investigation of lignin and the EIAC requested a Motion from RAC. MOTION: JLuna moved to ask the EIAC to form a subcommittee to research the use of lignin; KDryden seconded and the Motion carried.

V. Next Meeting: February 20, 2018

VI. Adjournment at 5:30 pm