

## MEETING RECORD

**DATE/TIME:** June 19, 2020 8:30 – 10:30

**PROJECT NAME/NO:** East Missoula Hwy 200 Corridor Planning

**SUBJECT:** Advisory Committee Meeting #4, Online Zoom Meeting

**BY:** Anne Cossitt, WGM Group

**ATTENDEES:** Chris Behan (MRA), Daniel Gundlach (ASUM Transportation), Jacquelyn Smith (MDT), John Stegmaier (County Parks/Trails), Kevin Slovarp (City Engineer), Robert Vosen (MDT), Lee Bridges (East Missoula Community Council), Ben Weiss (City Bicycle and Pedestrian), Aaron Wilson (MMPO), Tara Osendorf (MMPO), Stephen McDaniel (WGM), Kate Dinsmore (WGM), Anne Cossitt (WGM), Anna Vickers (WGM)

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### Meeting Purpose

Obtain Advisory Committee Guidance on:

- Any changes needed to Design Alternatives prior to public release. – Identify if Advisory Committee is comfortable with the alternatives as presented and if not, understand the issue(s) and make adjustments to alternatives or to presentation.
- Criteria and Process for selecting a Preferred Alternative.

### 1. Welcome and Overview of Progress to Date

The project is at the end of the “Design Alternatives’ phase and this meeting is to touch base with the Advisory Committee for changes before releasing the design alternatives to the public.

### 2. Design Alternatives

Kate Dinsmore, WGM Project Manager, presented the design alternatives. The Resource Agency Group met earlier in the week and had no changes to the design alternatives.

#### Draft Design Overview

Three corridor wide alternatives:

1. Alternative A: Complete Street
2. Alternative B: Shared Use Path
3. Alternative C: Sidewalks and Parking

Four Focus Areas:

1. Van Buren
  - Included 3 options for travel lane and bike-ped
2. Railroad Crossing and I-90 Interchanges: 3 options
  - a widened roadway under the RR and roundabouts for each of the I-90 intersections
  - a pedestrian tunnel to the east of the existing underpass, and a single roundabout between I-90 and the railroad
  - an at-grade bike-ped crossing across the railroad to the east of Highway 200
3. East Missoula: 7 different options
  - Three different options for the Complete Street Alternative
  - Three different options for the Shared Use Path Alternative
  - Single option for the Sidewalks and Parking Alternative
4. Sha-Ron: 3 options
  - Parking Lot north of Hwy 200 across from existing Sha-Ron
  - Improved Speedway intersection and increased parking at existing fishing access site
  - Separated on-street parking on Hwy 200 west of Speedway and a bus pullout

Kate Dinsmore clarified that options involving private property near ShaRon and along the railroad needed further review with property owners.

Advisory Committee Discussion

- This is complicated with all the options – will people be able to pick and choose what they like among these various alternatives?
- Bike-ped facilities –
  - need for wider shared-use facilities; should be at least 10 feet but ideally should be 14-16 feet. ROW may limit width of shared-use facilities.
  - Pros and cons of various types of in-street bike facilities
  - Option for raised street bike lane
- Pros/cons of on-street parking types – parallel, angle, angle with back-in
- Including cost of different alternatives (Note: costs will be developed for the preferred alternative but at this point the intent is to let the public see a range of alternatives and identify their preferences based on factors other than cost)
- Problems with the irregular, angled street intersections in Missoula – are there ways to improve and make them safer?
- Coordinating with Rail Link on the various options around the RR
- Maintenance, including snow removal and storage

- Generally liked the consolidated approach to traffic around Eastgate but concerns about further east - narrow ROW near Thunderbird
- RR undercrossing - bike/ped tunnel - will need lighting
- Lighting generally along the corridor - options for that?
- Parking and safety concerns at Sha-Ron

Recommended next steps before releasing this to the public

- Work on how this is presented so it is easier to understand - make it clear that we are asking the public to “pick and choose” what they like best about various alternative options
- Work on East Missoula intersections
- Contact property owners for discussion on draft options that involve private property

3. Next Work Phase: Select and Refine Preferred Alternative

Anne Cossitt indicated there was not enough time in this meeting to go over proposed criteria for selecting and refining the preferred alternative.

4. Upcoming Schedule - Revised Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

Anne Cossitt reported that the project was slightly off-schedule, due in part to issues with COVID-19. A new schedule will be sent to the Advisory Committee.