

**City of Glenwood Springs, Transportation Commission
Minutes, regular meeting – April 6, 2021**

The meeting convened at 7:35am and adjourned at 10:05am.

Participants included:

Commission members Sandy Lowell, Steve Smith, John Stephens, Ralph Trapani

City council members Shelley Kaup, Charlie Willman

City staff Linda DuPriest, Debra Figueroa, Matt Langhorst, Jenn Ooton, Terri Partch, Sara Weigel

A quorum was confirmed, with notation that three commission seats still need to be filled (two regular, one alternate).

Minutes

Minutes for February 2, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously
Minutes for March 2, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously, with syntax adjustment to sentence describing Imagine Glenwood public meeting

Staff reports – ongoing issues/projects

South Bridge

- Terri provided updated schedule for project design (currently at 60%), including plan to propose design amendments to city council April 15:
 - a) adjustments to pedestrian connection near Morgan Street
 - b) addition of bicycle-pedestrian path connecting Four Mile Road-water tank bench-Airport Road
 - c) possible addition of bicycle-pedestrian path extension, Park East Trail to South Bridge road/paths
- Ralph recommended extending south-side bicycle-pedestrian path to Rio Grande Trail; Terri described complications with right-of-way acquisition/taking at Jackson Ranch.
- Ralph moved, and commission approved 3-1, resolution recommending extending the south-side path, with necessary ROW acquisition (Steve opposed). Terri noted this will likely be included in April 15 report to city council.
- Steve highlighted proposed design change eliminating curb and gutter on Airport Road (instead using roadside swales for run-off collection and absorption; Steve opposed that change and asked commission input. After questions and discussions, other commissioners expressed comfort with the design change to drop curb and gutter.

South Midland reconstruction

- Terri reported that city engineering staff has prepared written response to the commission's bicycle-pedestrian design changes previously recommended by the commission; all recommendations will be accommodated. Terri will send copy of written response.

27th Street underpasses

- Terri reported that design adjustments are being made to a) slightly widen bicycle-pedestrian-ADA ramp east side of Glen Avenue, and b) seek room to add sidewalk on south side of 27th west of Glen.
- John asked for response to his previous suggestion to widen turning radius at bottom of east-side bicycle-pedestrian-ADA ramp. Terri will investigate.
- 60% design is expected July; bid request expected September

Blake/Bell-Rippy/gate

- Terri and Jenn reported that the Blake gate will open upon issuance of first certificate of occupancy (or TCO) for Bell-Rippy development (estimated spring 2022), and that experimental one-way southward on Blake north of 27th will be implemented soon.

MOVE study

- Terri reported that city and RFTA staff are conferring on final study report (and possible recommendations), with details in another month or two.
- Debra reported that commission's list of questions about the MOVE study will be conveyed to RFTA for response.

Staff reports – ongoing planning

Transportation demand management

- Linda provided thorough, clear presentation describing sequence for considering, defining, and forming TDM/TMA effort, possibly including establishment of local TDM authority. She recommended first contracting with experienced consultant on formation of a TDM authority (possibly *UrbanTrans*).
- Linda has consulted with (and city has joined) *Association for Commuter Transportation*, gaining helpful insights to TDM/TMA planning, organizational structure, and process.
- Steve cautioned that use of consultants and studies should be selective in order to ensure continued good will from studies-averse city council members; Sandi noted that TDM needs to be a continuing program, with commitment of city staff duties—not just a study; Ralph expressed support for using consultants where useful. Commissioners seemed to concur that selective use of consultants and studies may be useful.
- Regional versus local TDM was discussed. Steve noted, and Charlie confirmed, that RFTA has legal capability to include transportation planning (beyond transit) in its work. Sandy expressed resistance and reluctance to hand over too much authority to RFTA. Shelley and Debra described improvements in city relationship with, and influence over, RFTA in recent years.
- Debra reminded that TDM was proposed for, then dropped from, city's 2040 long-range transportation plan, that city council has approved investigating TDM now, and that no specific commitments (staffing levels/delegation, funding, *etc.*) have yet been made.

Subcommittee reports

Transit

- Transit subc. has discussed with city staff and with resort owners possibility of north Glenwood-downtown tourist shuttle. Among concerns to be addressed are a) who owns/operates (municipal? private? combination?), and b) ADA accommodations for users.

Bicycle-Pedestrian

- Steve presented subc's list of project recommendations for immediate action on 8th Street crossings, 6&24 bicycle path, Blake Avenue bicycle lane, and RiverTrail connections (subsets of small capital projects list priorities #1, #2, and #4, plus #6 RiverTrail using RFTA MOC funds)—list attached with these minutes. *

- Commission members expressed general support for the list; discussion turned to protocol and mechanism for delivering list for consideration and action by city staff

- Extensive discussion concluded:

- Commission will not formally send highlighted list to city council (where formal commission recommendations must go), since the list is a subset of capital projects list already approved by the council.

- Instead, Matt will review the list and confer with other city staff on feasibility and timing of response to the list (streets, parks, engineering, asst manager).

- Steve offered subc members for consultation with city staff to clarify details on the list.

- Meanwhile, Matt and Terri reported that work on RiverTrail connections has begun—Safeway footpath completed, Coach Miller Drive next, and northward.

- Ralph objected to one item on the list—not to construct three-foot path on north side of 8th Street. That item will return for discussion at the commission's May meeting; meanwhile, Steve will confer with Ralph.

New business

Annual review, capital projects lists – postponed to May meeting

West Glenwood development proposal

- Sandy and John expressed interest in commission review of transportation aspects/impacts of the proposal.

- Jenn clarified that Planning & Zoning Commission has closed public comment on zoning/annexation components of the proposal; she will investigate other opportunities for Transportation Commission review.

- Linda noted that preliminary staff discussions with developer predict useful bicycle-pedestrian improvements as part of final design.

Main Streets state grants program

- John encouraged city staff to be timely in seeking funding from this state/CDOT grants program; he will distribute grants criteria to commission members, encouraged the commission to make recommendations.

- Steve noted that, earlier, Charlie had highlighted pending state legislation to expand funding for the program; Charlie suggested 6th Street as suitable candidate for funding. Steve also noted that previous grants have been concentrated in Denver metropolitan area; clarification of eligibility needs to be investigated.

Election of officers

- Sandy nominated Rob as 2021 commission chair; commissioners unanimously approved.
- Ralph reminded that officers to be selected also include vice-chair and secretary; those decisions were postponed to May meeting.

Interim tasks/assignments

- Recruit new commission members – *all*
- Monitor South Bridge April 15 city council discussion – *all*
- Deliver engineering memo responding to South Midland recommendations – *Terri*
- Investigate wider turn-radius, 27th Street underpass ramp – *Terri*
- Deliver commission's list of MOVE questions to RFTA – *Debra*
- Further investigation of TDM structure, input, consultants – *Linda, Ralph, et al*
- Confer with city staff on Bicycle-Pedestrian Subc prompt-action recommendations – *Matt*
- Investigate opportunities for commission input on West Glenwood development proposal – *Jenn*
- Investigate details of Main Streets grant program – *city grants staff, Steve*

*** City of Glenwood Springs Transportation Commission
Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee report/recommendations**

April 2021

In its past three meetings, the Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee has reviewed conditions at priority bicycle-pedestrian locations. We recommend full Transportation Commission endorsement of the following actions for early 2021.

These recommendations focus on tasks that:

- a) are ranked high priority on Small Capital Projects list--#1, #2, and #4;
- b) can be completed as part of maintenance, repair, and/or SWAT projects;
- c) have funding in place; or
- d) enjoy combination of those.

8th Street (*Small Projects #1, #5, #7*)

Maintenance

- **8th crosswalks, remove & replace** (*marking:pavement ratio 1:1*)
 - 7th, Defiance 2x, Pitkin
- **8th crosswalk marking, refresh worn portions** (*retain ratio 1:1*)
 - Colorado

New installations

- **8th/Midland merge ramp**
 - Add visibility-accenting white bar full width, both sides of crosswalk
- **8th/7th crosswalk**
 - Add rapid flashing beacon
- **8th north-side path to full design 8-foot width**
 - (*or postpone until full funding available; no interim 3-foot path*)

Repair

- **Midland north-side sidewalk**
 - Repair concrete path damage at Overlin Drive crossing

6&24 bicycle path (*Small Projects #2*)

Maintenance

- **Frequently sweep** accumulated dirt, gravel, and debris from full length
- **Replace missing separator posts**, east of private driveway

Repairs

- **Finish crack-filling** – 10-13 severe remaining cracks, from point 200' east of Transfer Trail to Linden
- **Remove accumulated soil & debris**/improvise drainage ditch, north side, 450' length west of private driveway (*or otherwise reduce/eliminate water accumulation*)

- **Repair/replace path** pavement, bottom of private driveway
- **Repair/overlay** portion parallel to exiting separator posts

New installation

- **Add separator posts** to define path near Transfer Trail bus shelter

- **Blake Avenue bicycle lane**, southbound (*Small Projects #4*)

- **Eliminate car parking in bicycle lane**

- *Simplest* - Eliminate east-side parking between Hyland Park Drives
 - *Interim option* - Extend yellow curb paint and other no-parking indicators (*add 25' north of South Hyland Park Drive; add 15' south of driveway south of 20th*)
 - *More complex, preferred* - Reconfigure all street markings for symmetry (*42 existing total width can accommodate, on both sides, parking 7', bicycle lane 4', travel lane 10'*)

- **RiverTrail connections** (*Small Projects #6; funding in place from MOC sale*)

- Repair/New installations*

- **Coach Miller Drive**

- Remove railroad rails as needed
 - Widen, extend, and reconfigure geometry of existing concrete path (*to allow safe bicycle-pedestrian access from north and south*)
 - Provide clear access to concrete path (*move light pole from north edge of existing concrete path; restrict car parking at path access and on path southward*)
 - Extend concrete path to RiverTrail
 - Add pavement, connecting Red Mountain Path to RiverTrail
 - Repair surface damage at truck crossing; pave full width and length of truck crossing (crumb asphalt or otherwise) to eliminate gravel/debris-tracking
 - Consider removing or shortening truck-crossing gate, to allow bicycle access

- **12th Street**

- Remove metal bars parallel to RiverTrail east side
 - Remove railroad rails and crossing pads as needed
 - Repair damaged 12th Street road base and asphalt east of trail

- **Glenwood Springs Elementary School**

- Remove railroad rails as needed
 - Reconfigure school path across RR ROW, if necessary
 - Pave school path to connection with trail, eliminate gravel-tracking