

Project Management Team Meeting #13  
September 9th, 2009 1:30-3:30  
Oregon Department of Transportation Region 2 HDQ  
455 Airport Road, Building A

DRAFT Meeting Summary

**Members in Attendance**

Dorothy Upton  
Dan Fricke  
Nate Brown  
Les Sasaki  
Glen Gross  
Jill Corcoran

Rob Kissler

**Staff in Attendance**

Rick Kuehn, CH2M Hill  
Terry Cole, ODOT  
Eryn Kehe, JLA  
Adrienne DeDona, JLA

**Meeting Goals**

- Review Recommended Draft Alternative Package and Phasing
- Provide input on the team's Public Outreach plans
- Discuss the Project's Next Steps

**Welcome**

Eryn welcomed the group, reviewed the agenda and explained the meeting goals. She asked for input about the meeting room and whether it would be a good location for future meetings. The group agreed it would be a good location for other meetings.

*Approve July 22nd Meeting Summary-*

Eryn asked if there was any feedback or questions about the previous meeting summary. The group had no comments and approved the July meeting summary.

***Draft recommended alternative***

*Feedback from the SAC-*

Rick reviewed the following feedback received from the SAC at the last meeting.

- Alan Roodhouse suggested that if the loop ramp were connected to Tepper and Indian School Road, it would provide a new connection to the City and other areas to the North of Keizer, without having to go onto Chemawa Road. Rick asked if there were any thoughts the PMT might have about that suggestion, or any suggestions about the new alignment and how it connects to Indian School Road.
- SuAnn Redick stated that the Indian School Road alignment option will absolutely not work with the Indian School, specifically in terms of public roads going through the private campus. Rick said that they had thought that would be favorable, but now know that it is not. He said they have made some revisions since that meeting to take Indian School Road under the underpass to connect to the Tepper extension.

Rob inquired if what is being presented is acceptable to the Indian school. Rick confirmed that the new drawing is acceptable to the Indian school.

Dorothy asked if the signal light placement was inside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). Terry said the drawing keeps it as close as possible to the UGB, but they might have to put it just outside the boundary.

Rick said that he thought that the scale was off in the drawing. Rob added that from I-5 to Keizer Station Blvd should be 1500 feet.

Terry said that Dorothy raised a good point about coming into undeveloped property and the possibility that alignment and design at those locations could be worked out at some point in the future when development occurs.

Rick continued with the feedback from the previous SAC meeting:

- SuAnn felt that property to the north was part of the federal property, but she thought it may be able to provide access.
- Alan asked about costs associated with not doing the project.
- SuAnn commented about widening Chemawa going east and the steep slopes. She wanted to know if retaining walls would be considered. Tim Potter explained that it would likely be pursued the cheapest way. Rick felt that it would be a design detail. Eryn clarified that this spoke to an underlying concern about property acquisition.
- John Schaad stated a concern about the proposed roundabout and getting loads with poles through the area. Rick added that this would be a final design detail as well.
- Cathy Clark was concerned about future lane drop in the westbound direction and whether there will still be congestion. Rick explained that the lane drop at McLeod would be a right turn lane and that the queue wouldn't be causing congestion further to the east. Terry added that lane drops will be in areas of significant right turns.
- Pat Elrich stated a concern about accommodations for pedestrians getting to and from Volcano games. She said there were currently gaps in bike and pedestrian access and requested enhanced bike and pedestrian access in the area. Rick said this is something to keep in mind during final design.
- SuAnn asked if there was anything the team could do to facilitate a signal going into Indian School Road early. Les Sasaki said that is something that could be discussed.

*Modifications to line drawings –*

Rick reviewed the following modifications to the line drawings map since the last meeting:

- The alignment of Indian School Road has been changed.
- The alignment of the Tepper extension has been changed in order to keep it within the UGB.

Dorothy asked if anyone has considered a T-intersection to gain access from Indian School Road into the Chemawa Indian School. Rick said that would require crossing the railroad. Terry said that there isn't a public crossing to the railroad currently. Nate added that the railroad wouldn't likely grant access.

Rick said that the loop ramp somehow got left off this version of the drawing. He didn't like how the northbound on-ramp is interacting with the Tepper extension. Rick felt the on-ramp needed to loop out more.

Terry requested that for future presentation purposes UGB should be spelled out.

*Updated analysis data –*

Rick said that further traffic analysis has shown that the new intersection with the same lane configuration would still look fine and that the intersection at Indian School Road and Tepper would work as a stop configuration.

Rick asked if there were any questions about the analysis.

Terry asked what assumptions Tony used for Indian school Road. He said he would prefer not to speculate anything without development in the area. Dorothy added that any development proposal would determine whether or not it was going to need a signal. Rick said that the impacts are in the analysis, but he didn't know how Tony assigned it.

*Policy issues -*

Terry explained that ODOT would work with the local cities and the County to determine what policies were in place for transportation and land use in order to facilitate coordination with development of the Chemawa IAMP. He said they would need to acknowledge access management to protect resource land and that there may be a need to update the Keizer Comprehensive Plan. Terry suggested reviewing and discussing the policy language with Glen Gross and Les Sasaki.

Nate underscored how important policy coordination at the local level was.

Terry said that it may be likely they will have to amend mobility standards in the area. He said that through this process they will determine what will help guide the development process in the area and the corresponding planning documents. Terry said that the policy phase could be the last phase in the process before drafting the IAMP and that policy review could possibly take place in November.

Nate asked if they would involve DLCD. Terry explained that he would like to sit down with the local jurisdictions first in order to work with city councils individually and that he would involve DLCD as the next step.

Rick said the next step in the process is taking the drawing to 10% design. He explained that through that process they will chop up the area into sections and blow them up to see where the right of way issues are, etc. He said that Tepper will probably stay at an elevated level, which means that Indian School Road will likely need to be elevated at the connection.

Rick said that right of way has been initially reviewed with as-built information from Rob Kissler with the City of Keizer. He said that with this information, it looks like the one extra lane in the westbound direction from McLeod to Verda could be done within the existing right-of-way. Rick said that the current cross-sections from fog line to fog line is 46 feet and that a standard three lane section is typically 40 feet. Rick said that on the south side from the back of the sidewalk across from Whitaker there is 10 feet of additional space and on the north side there is 5 feet. He also said that on the ground it looks like the right of way is consistent all the way to the west. Rick summarized that through this preliminary look at the engineering, an additional lane in the westbound lane would fit within the existing right of way. He said there is really wide right of way going eastbound on the north from just west of the railroad through the interchange. Rick explained that there is an area between McLeod and where Chemawa takes off (Keizer Station Blvd.) where there would likely be some additional right of way required – basically a lanes width of property on one side or the other. Rick asked if both sides are owned by Keizer Station.

Nate said that some of the property is City owned. Rob added that some property is owned by Northwest National. Rick asked if the potential transit center location is in City ownership. Nate said it was, plus some private property.

Rick said that from the mid-point of that parcel to the west is where some right of way would have to be acquired in order to get another lane in both directions. Nate asked if the additional lane is from McLeod eastward. Rick said it was.

Eryn asked if there are private homes in that area. Rob said that on the south side of Lockhaven all of the homes face McLeod. He said there is one residence on the north side in area B of the Keizer Station Plan.

Terry asked if that property was intended to be acquired by the transit center. Nate said that it is going to have to be master planned. He explained that the City also owns property on the northeast side and the southwest corner (skewed on either side of the private property). Nate said it would have to be consolidated at some point to be developed, but not with the transit center.

Rick said the landscaping done by Keizer Station is on old Chemawa Road right of way. Nate asked if the project was expanding east of the railroad. Rick said , it was. Nate asked if it would be another lanes width. Rick said, yes in both directions, it would extend all the way through the intersection to where Tepper connects.

Eryn said that what might be useful is to have a rendering that is blown up that shows the number of lanes – especially for the Open House. Terry said that he wanted to be careful about being too specific, especially with the right of way. He thought it should be presented as a cartoon drawing to show the potential improvements in each area. For example, communicating right of way is needed by indicating that one zone has a certain amount of right of way available, and then indicating how much right of way is needed.

Nate said that he didn't want to do any improvements that are going to have to be redone at some point. Dorothy said that should depend on how long it is going to be there until it's changed – a temporary improvement could get 10 years of use in some cases.

Rob asked if the interchange structure will have to be reconstructed. Dan said he thought that during the Keizer Station analysis they found that it would. Rob asked if the 2020 plan completed by Kittleson had been reviewed by the team. He said there is width for a second right turn lane on the eastbound approach, but that the second lane on the ramp is not in place now. Rob then asked if this plan going to be after 2020 or as development is completed. Rick said that analysis has been done beyond 2020.

Terry said that widening is being presented as phase I in the process. He added that this would bring the biggest bang for the buck – it's the most immediate need with the biggest impact. Terry said it's hard to say how the rest of the project would get funded. He said we can lay out what would happen if nothing's done and how we could proceed to make improvements, then at that point politics come into place - eventually it comes down to the priorities of the MWVCOG.

Eryn clarified whether Rob's question was about phasing the widening into phases. Rob indicated that, yes, it might be an improvement to the overall system. He provided examples such as a cantilevered pedestrian walkway or narrower lane widths to provide for additional lanes on the overcrossing structure. Rob said there are some things that help the system operate for the general public as an interim step that can happen before the funding is in place to build anything more major. Terry responded that the area from McLeod west could be phased and that there are a number of ways to divide the project into phases. Rob requested that the consultants work in conjunction with Keizer Station plans.

Nate requested that phases be determined. Terry said that so far they have broken down the project into three chunks, but they need to identify other, smaller phases.

Dan suggested checking in with the railroad to determine what it would take to get an additional lane crossing. Dorothy asked if there are only two gates at the rail crossing. Rob said there are four gates, but only in the east and west direction.

Terry explained the need to determine a level of detail the group would be comfortable dealing with – a general order of direction to consider as we move forward. He said while funding resources were being determined, there could be a number of things to work on between ODOT and the City.

Rob asked if a map that indicates 2020 improvements would be helpful. Rick said yes, and a map with property ownership would be useful too. Eryn and Rob recommended getting that information from the County.

Eryn noted that the group hadn't discussed widening east of I-5 yet. Rick said that the as-built information for that area was needed in order to determine the initial right of way. Eryn added that the Indian School is interested in hearing about that area.

### ***Public Outreach***

Eryn reviewed the proposed public outreach schedule and said that she would like to discuss the communication tools and public outreach efforts leading up to the Open House, including the draft newsletter and the messaging.

*Riverfair report* – Eryn reported that Rick and another JLA staffer attended Riverfair with information about the Chemawa IAMP project.

*September and October schedule* – Eryn reported that the next Open House is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> at Whitaker Middle School - where the last meeting was held. She said that the newsletter was scheduled to go out the last week in September to advertise the Open House. Eryn requested feedback from the group about the location for the Open House.

Rob said he thought that Whitaker was a good location. Dan and Rick also said that Whitaker was a good location. Rob suggested using the community room at City Hall.

Eryn said she would bring these options up to the SAC and get feedback. She explained that in addition to the newsletter there would be an online comment form available to collect public input before and after the Open House. Eryn said that the online survey will require a certain amount of education and information in order for someone unconnected to the project to provide input. She said this will take some work by the project team to explain the project before asking people what they think. Eryn said she

hoped to couple the questions with information about the problems that have been identified, including presenting the solution and costs before asking for input.

Eryn explained that the outreach schedule also includes a list of organizations to contact. She said that the organizations listed have been contacted by the project team over the course of the project and she would like to touch base with them again.

Rob recommended adding the following organizations:

- Keizer Traffic Safety Commission – the City committee on traffic safety
- Salem-Keizer School district
- West Keizer Neighborhood Association
- LSAC – school parents
- McNary High School

Terry asked Eryn how she was approaching the schedule since most of the local organizations have their own meeting dates.

Eryn said that she would probably conduct targeted outreach in October. She explained that she would target organizations with an audience as well as private property owners, particularly those across from the Indian School.

Terry agreed that it would be worthwhile to sit down and discuss with each of the property owners how they see the long-term future of their property. He noted that he had already been in contact with some of them through Dale Frank but hadn't had any direct outreach with property owners in that area yet. Rob recommended notifying the owner of Keizer Station and the Grande Ronde/Siletz Tribal Coalition. Eryn said that representatives from both organizations were on the SAC.

Nate and Terry said they didn't want to create too much alarm on the west side by knocking on doors. Eryn added that she wanted to make sure that we create an accurate message so that we do not create alarm prior to the Open House.

Rob suggested adding information about the Open House to the cities of Salem and Keizer's websites. Terry requested adding a link to the cities websites to the project website. Rob suggested sending a message through the local cable television program announcing the Open House with a link to the project website. Terry recommended developing newspaper ads.

Dorothy asked if the project team should contact the two area churches and their congregations. Rob said they will get the newsletter. Nate said that Dayspring has a significant chunk of frontage, but that also assumes a fair amount of design that we haven't determined. Dorothy said she was referring to the traffic flow and impacts to the church's congregation, not right of way acquisition. She suggested announcing the

Open House to the congregation. Rob suggested announcing the Open House to the LDS church as well. Eryn said we could easily call both churches and ask them to circulate information to their congregation.

Eryn clarified that the targeted outreach was specifically about door knocking opportunities prior to the newsletter being distributed. She suggested the other area for targeted outreach would be the area north of Volcano Stadium.

Terry said that he didn't want things to get too jammed up with the schedule leading up to the Open House. Rick noted that Eryn has made some real efforts to make sure the Volcanoes are being engaged. He also added that SuAnn mentioned that the three houses on the north side of Indian School Road are renters. He asked the group whether or not the project team should send them information or the property owners.

Eryn suggested making sure the property owners received the open house notice.

*Review draft newsletter –*

Eryn requested feedback from the group about the draft newsletter. She recommended sending any minor edits to her via e-mail or in writing after the meeting. Eryn mentioned she will be looking for the same feedback from the SAC on Tuesday.

Jill Corcoran said that as a new person to the project, she likes the layout, especially the map. She said it is a lot of information packed in for someone not involved in the project. Eryn asked if Jill thought we should look at reducing some of the content. Jill said she thought things were summarized well.

Terry suggested emphasizing the website at the top of each page and to include asking people to visit the website. He also suggested looking at de-jargoning some of the text. Dorothy recommended cross-referencing the text with the map and increasing the font sizes for the streets. Rick said he likes the message on the first page – the project is a long-range plan. Eryn said that it sounds like we are heading in the right direction based on the feedback from the group and encouraged members to send more feedback within the next week via e-mail if they had any.

Rob said that Debbie Lockhart would be the contact for getting info on the City's website.

*Review open house materials –*

Eryn said she would also like to get feedback on the materials for the open house and recommended using the materials for the Riverfair as a starting point. She said one additional thing to include would be to use a map with the number of lanes suggested for the Phase I widening.

Rob suggested something with final build-out. Rick and Eryn said the cartoon version could be used. Eryn asked if we will scare people if we send something out that is more than a cartoon. Terry said he didn't have a problem sharing something more detailed than the cartoon at the open house because staff will be able to be there to explain the intent. Dorothy said she thought the cartoon drawing was good for a general information overview and she suggested having a more detailed version at each of the Open House stations. Dorothy added that she thought the cartoon was a good reference for the newsletter.

Dan suggested breaking information into stations by geographic area. Terry recommended including initial project background information such as the goals and objectives, process, and next steps. Terry also suggested coming up with a stationing plan for the open house, such as overview, technical information (i.e. v/c ratios), then each of the geographic areas. Rob asked if the stations could be organized around phasing. Eryn said she would take some time to think about whether phasing or geographic areas would work best and will present a proposal to the project team. Dorothy noted that if we used three geographic areas vs. four it would somewhat match the phasing.

Eryn said we will probably need help from folks on the committee to staff stations. She said she will put together meeting plan for how the Open House would be organized and what information would be at each of the stations. Eryn said she will make some specific requests for staffing.

Nate suggested including information about the transit station. Terry said that would be a good idea. Eryn said she will look into that option.

Terry wrapped up the discussion by explaining that the project team needs to indicate that they are looking at a list of things that can be done before project is implemented – things that can be done as part of a traffic management system approach. He said it would be important to communicate that we can make a bad situation tolerable while we are waiting for the solution to be implemented. Terry said these options will make it marginally better in the meantime.

Eryn reiterated that it was important to identify any messaging we might be missing.

### ***Next Steps***

Terry reviewed the following next steps for the project:

- Finalize 10% design drawings for recommended alternative
- Open House
- Develop Draft IAMP

Eryn adjourned the meeting at 3:07.