

Stakeholder Advisory Committee
September 15, 2009 2:00-4:00
Keizer Fire Station
661 Chemawa Road NE Keizer, OR 97303

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Members in Attendance

Randy Jackson
Pat Erlich
Cathy Clark
Jerry Lelack
Christine Dieker
SuAnn Reddick
Scott Lawrence

Sam Brentano

Staff in Attendance

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

Meeting Goals:

- Review and recommend 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 the meeting goals, including announcing open house scheduled for October 14th at Keizer City Hall. She said that the technical team has been working on updating the line drawings and will present the current plans.

July meeting summary –

Eryn asked if there were any suggested changes to the July meeting summary.

Pat Erlich submitted written changes to the meeting summary. She also clarified that in the notes she asked if there would be a signalized intersection at Tepper and Stadium vs. Tepper and Tepper.

SuAnn Reddick clarified that in reference to a statement on page three, the group discussed the possibility of an off-ramp to Tepper in order to preserve intersections and the access road to the Indian School property south of Chemawa Road. SuAnn also said that in reference to the statement on page three that she and Mike made about 'may not work' was substantially more adamant. She indicated "will absolutely not work" would be more accurate. SuAnn made a comment regarding access being allowed across the railroad to the other piece of Indian School property. She felt that it would be viable and desirable to know if the easement still exists because it would provide access for people from the Indian School to the property across the road. SuAnn said a crossing did exist at some point in the past.

Rick said that the crossing would only be used for the Indian School, not for a public road. SuAnn reiterated that it would be important to find out. Rick said he would find out what the records show for that crossing.

Eryn asked if everyone was comfortable with the changes suggested. All agreed to approve the meeting summary with the suggested amendments.

Draft recommended alternative

Modifications to line drawings –

Rick reviewed the modifications to the line drawings map since the last meeting. He explained that there were not a lot of revisions on the map from the previous meeting. He indicated there was one significant change related to Indian School Road – instead of taking it to the east across the railroad, the drawing now shows it extending north to the overpass already there today and connecting it to the Tepper extension. Rick noted that on the two alignments for Indian School Road and Tepper there is a piece of property that will be developed in the future and ODOT will work with the property owner at that time to determine best alignment when developed. Rick said the technical team has determined that there is one section of the road that would go outside the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and there may need to be an expansion of the UGB or a land use goal exception if that is the alignment that is ultimately chosen.

Rick explained that there would be a new signalized intersection and an option to rebuild the connecting point for the Indian School driveway so that property could be accessed at the same signal.

Rick noted that somehow a layer didn't get included on the map that should show the loop ramp as part of the later phases of the project.

Rick said that the widening of Chemawa has not changed from what was presented before. He summarized the following proposed widening segments:

- From McLeod to Tepper would be six lanes.
- From Tepper to Portland Road it would be four lanes.
- From McLeod to Verda there would be two lanes westbound and one lane eastbound.

Rick explained that based on initial review, it appears that getting an additional westbound lane could be done with existing right of way. He said it looks like there is five feet on the north and 10 feet on the south side of Chemawa behind the sidewalk and that there needs to be 12 feet of pavement for an additional lane. Additionally, the center turning lane could be narrowed several feet.

Cathy Clark asked whether or not in the section from McLeod to Verda there would be one additional westbound lane for a total of four lanes. Rick said that was correct.

Rick said that everything about the 35th alignment is the same as seen before. He explained that the next step is to convert this work into a 10% engineering plan which would cut each section into individual sheets so that it can be shown on a much larger scale with existing right of way, bike lanes, etc. Rick said this will be based on as-built information and will not be done to a construction plan level of detail.

Rick noted that at the PMT meeting there was a discussion about the distance from the off-ramp to the current entrance to the school. Terry said that the scale on the map is not correct. He thought that the distance was 1320 feet. He said that if the loop ramp were to go in, it wouldn't meet the spacing requirement at that location. Rick agreed the scale was wrong. *Note: since the meeting, the scale has been corrected and it would be approximately 1,500' from the loop ramp intersection to the Tepper intersection.* Terry said he thought the measurement is right in the other direction and the measurement to the railroad tracks is correct. He indicated that the Tepper extension over to Chemawa is meeting the spacing requirements, but if clover-leaf was added, it would not. SuAnn inquired about the significance of the measurements.

Rick said that there may be a need for a goal exception to be granted as well as the flood plain may possibly be an issue too. Terry added that there would be a question about whether or not the alignment would need to be mitigated because of the flood plain. He said they would have to figure out how the alignment would ultimately be connectable and how to stay within the UGB.

SuAnn asked if there would be an application to the County for UGB expansion. Terry replied that there would be an application for a goal exception. He said the County would choose to either approve or deny the application and then it would go to the DLCDC (state) for approval. Terry explained that they would try and stay within the UGB as much as possible, but it may not be possible. He said there may need to be a UGB expansion to keep it in.

Pat asked if the purpose of the Tepper extension was another connection to Chemawa Road east of the interchange. Terry confirmed that it was. Rick explained that when development plans are formulated, it might make more sense for the property and the public street to have some other type of alignment, such as through the middle of the property instead of along the edge.

SuAnn asked if the dark blue line represented the driveway extension. Rick explained that it was a revision of the driveway and that it might need to be characterized differently for the public.

Terry said ODOT would attempt to leave the undeveloped property undisturbed, however ultimately that may not be to the advantage of the property owner and ODOT. He explained the project team would make it clear to the public that there are an infinite number of possibilities for the configuration there as well as a number of

constraints. Terry added that the spacing could be improved based on the alignment at that location.

Eryn noted that Rick was still working on the widening alignment/width information on the east side from Tepper to Portland Road. Rick indicated he was waiting to get more detailed information from Marion County in order to make an initial determination about the right of way on the east side.

Cathy said that after the last meeting, she had a revelation about widening Lockhaven by the middle school and that there absolutely must be a protected pedestrian crosswalk included in the widening that leads to the school because there is such a gap. Terry asked if that was included in the TSP as part of safe routes to school. Cathy said that safe routes to school and pedestrian access were included in the TSP, but this specific suggestion was not included. She said it was their intent to add this project to the TSP later. Terry said they could put in a policy within the IAMP. He explained that the configuration determined will need to be supported with policy at the local jurisdictional level.

Rick noted that there were other comments from the SAC about pedestrian access that will have to go into the IAMP policy statement for the person who designs and implements this project in the future.

Pat Elrich asked if this group would be looking at the policy language for this project. Terry confirmed that the group would be tasked with reviewing the draft document prior to the public hearing and public comment period.

Scott Lawrence asked if a left turn would be added from Keizer Station turning onto Chemawa from Stadium Drive. Terry said that would not change in the future. He indicated that existing intersection at Ulali was part of the access management made when Keizer Station was first developed.

Christine Dieker asked about the exit onto Chemawa from I-5. Terry explained that in the final configuration, the off-ramp to Chemawa would be turned into a collector-distributor road because this would provide better spacing with the Salem Parkway exit (spacing them further apart to avoid weaving). Christine asked if Exit #260 would remain the main exit for Keizer. Terry said that the numbering could change since the Salem Parkway would be its own exit. He said that exit numbers and milepost designations would have to be reconfigured.

Christine stated that would solve the traffic flow, but it would take the emphasis off of the exit. Rick said there will still be an exit to Chemawa and there will still be an exit to Salem Parkway, they will just be further apart from each other. He said the Chemawa exit will be north of the Volcano stadium.

Cathy noted that they would lose the visibility for Keizer Station. Terry said that resigning on I-5 would need to be done for Keizer Station.

Christine asked if the exit ramp would run east of Target. Terry said it would run east of Target and be tucked in pretty tight along I-5. Christine asked if the pedestrian pathway would go away. Rick said he thought there was room within the I-5 right of way and that the pedestrian pathway was outside of that.

Policy issues -

Terry explained that one of the next steps in the process would be to review existing policy documents at the local level. For example, there is a lot of farmland in the area. ODOT will want to work with Marion County on how to protect that farmland. In another example, Terry explained that even with the IAMP's suggested improvements to the area, intersections are not going to meet statewide standards. If all the jurisdictions agree with the work done as part of the IAMP, work will need to occur to re-set those standards in the area.

Sam Brentano stated that an agreement with Marion County at this time troubles him because things change. Terry replied that on the west side the same kind of policy issues will not be applicable as on the east side because it's far enough removed from interchange. He said that determining what makes sense related to local transportation and land use plans will be the tricky part and that there is a need to get the local plans, mobility standards and the facility linked up. He stated the artful part of the process is making sure that everyone's needs can get articulated and interpreted in the future.

Terry said he would schedule meetings with County staff and each of the City's staff to review the local policies and plans. He said he didn't want to recreate anything that is already out there that is already supporting the IAMP. Terry explained that through this process, they would determine the gaps and what needed written clarification. He noted that this policy review is really the last step in putting together the draft IAMP. Terry said that at that point they will put together the draft plan, and then distribute it to the SAC for review. Rick informed the group that the Angelo Planning Group will be assisting with this phase in the process.

Terry said that once the draft is completed, they will be ready to have discussions with the public, then apply the feedback received and seek approval for the plan.

SuAnn asked if these plans will impact immediate needs in the interchange area. For instance, she would like to see a new signalized intersection at the existing school driveway. Terry replied that is a County issue, outside of the IAMP, and asked if SuAnn had talked to the County. Rick said that if a situation is severe enough, a temporary signal can be put in that could be moved later when the final signal goes in. He said that ultimately depends on the situation occurring out there today. Finding out requires a specific analysis conducted by the County.

SuAnn asked whether ODOT would make that decision. Terry said he didn't think ODOT would be involved. SuAnn said she didn't want to include policy language that would preclude needs in the immediate term. Rick said that the driveway configuration at the Indian School could occur in the near term. Eryn mentioned that she had talked about this with Les Sasaki at Marion County and offered to give SuAnn his contact information to begin that discussion. Terry mentioned that Karen Odenthal might be the best contact. Eryn said she would give her that contact information as well.

Terry said that it might make sense to go to the County and the cities to talk about a UGB expansion vs. a goal exception. He said that through this process they will determine the mechanics of implementing the project in concert with the public need and future planning assumptions.

Eryn asked if the group had any additional feedback about the maps for the Open House.

Cathy said she thought the way it was presented at RiverFair was good.

Public Outreach

Eryn reviewed the following steps proposed for the outreach process and asked for the group's input:

- The Newsletter would be the main communication piece announcing the upcoming Open House scheduled for October 14. She added that it would be mailed to approximately 6,000 addresses.
- An e-mail list was generated through the sign-in sheet from the first open house and the organizations that were interviewed at the outset of the process. An e-mail will be sent to this list announcing the open house.

Cathy said that the City of Salem has had turn-over on the Council and noted that Salem was not represented on the committee anymore. Eryn said that she has been in contact with the replacement, Chuck Bennett, but he had a meeting conflict with this date. Eryn said that Dave Baltz, staff with the City, was on the PMT, but he is no longer with the City. Terry said that Glen Gross is now the representative on the PMT and he has been at the last three meetings. Eryn noted Cathy's concern, and said she would follow up with Chuck to get his input on outreach.

Eryn said that she would try and get the event listed on the cities of Keizer and Salem's websites.

Eryn said that a press release would be sent to the local media. Pat suggested Keizer 23 cable station. Cathy suggested CCTV.

Eryn asked the group for any additional suggestions for organizations to contact and send information to, including a contact person for the Rotary. Christine said that it was John Donath would be the contact for the Rotary. She also suggested Terry Snyder with the youth sports association and Keizer Soccer Club.

Eryn explained that targeted outreach would be conducted prior to the open house which would include identifying property owners that we haven't communicated with yet that might be impacted by the project. She explained that a member of the project team would talk to them personally vs. just getting the newsletter which could be somewhat frightening. Eryn said that the truth is there aren't a lot of people in the project area, so sending letters or making phone calls might make the most sense since not all of the property owners live in the area. She said that there hasn't been any contact with the property owners around Volcano stadium and that they will likely be interested in the possible realignment.

Cathy asked if there was a transit representative for the group. Eryn said that she has been sending information to Steve Dickey. Cathy suggested contacting the transit board members. Eryn said that she would talk to Steve about that. Terry said that Rick has spent a lot of time researching the Transit Station needs – access points, etc. Eryn said we could add the Transit board members to the email list and that it was suggested at the PMT meeting to include information about the Transit Center at the Open House. The group agreed.

Christine said that she's heard some conversations about light rail and commuter rail. Terry said that the only conversation he has heard about that was from Salem-Keizer Transit using the new station as a rail stop. Cathy said the City Council heard a presentation about proposal for high speed rail utilizing possible stimulus dollars. She said that it raised a tremendous amount of questions. Cathy added that the site of the Transit Center had merit due to future commuter rail connections. SuAnn asked if there had been any dialogue with the railroad about these ideas. Cathy said she wasn't aware of any conversation with the railroad. Cathy said that it was ODOT Rail that made the presentation to the Keizer Council.

SuAnn asked if it was obligatory to contact either agency. Rick said he had to speak to ODOT Rail about the Chemawa project, so will ask them what their plans are, including inquiring about the crossing access at Indian School Road.

Eryn then explained that the project website would include an announcement about the Open House in addition to being used as a tool for people who cannot attend to participate through an online survey. Eryn said that the online survey will include some concise messaging about the project. She reiterated that the newsletter is the first step to communicate the message to the public and that it will need to include an explanation of why the plans have been put together.

Open house meeting plan –

Eryn reviewed the following plans for the open house:

- It will be a two hour, drop-in style event with displays providing information about the project purpose, problem and solutions included in the different phases of the project.
- There will be approximately 8 stations starting with background information and ending with detailed information about the various phases.
- A printed version of the survey will be available to collect feedback from the public.

Eryn asked the group for their input about what maps to include such as the different alternatives in phase I, II and III - including blow-ups of the line drawings. She said that the PMT thought that would work because staff would be there to explain and answer questions. She also suggested having the bubble diagrams available.

Pat said if we don't have the line drawings, then it would be hard to visualize. Jerry Lelack added that some people are very visual and the line maps will give people an idea of how the project connects. Cathy said that it doesn't take very much to get folks fixated on something. She said 7 out of 10 will understand that it's conceptual and the other three people will spend the evening bending staff's ear struggling to understand. She suggested keeping the information generic so as to not to miscommunicate information – especially for the eastside.

Sam asked if there was a way to be clear that these are conceptual maps. Rick said yes, we have language that will be included on the maps specific to each roadway and prior to the open house there will have been one-on-one conversations with specific property owners.

Cathy asked about the owners of Martha Louise. Eryn replied that the Indian School owns that property. SuAnn confirmed that they property has been is some sort of pseudo-rental situation and that it is part of the Indian School. SuAnn suggested characterizing the realignment of Indian School Road as an extension instead of realignment. Terry said to include the word 'possible' with extension of Indian School Road.

Eryn added that extra effort has been made to reach out to Chemawa Ventures property – the former Colson and Colson property. Cathy asked if the onion fields were owned by the school. SuAnn replied that they no longer were owned by the Indian School.

Cathy said she loved having maps because they provided a much clearer understanding than a written description. She suggested having different versions of the possible alignments. Rick stated a concern regarding using only the cartoon drawing and not the line drawing because it might cause a certain element of surprise when the line drawing is included in the IAMP document. Terry suggested illustrating both generally with the cartoon drawing and more specifically with the line drawings.

Eryn asked the group for feedback about the proposed format for the Open House – informal, drop in style.

SuAnn said the comment forms should be categorized by geographic area – east side, west side, etc. Eryn said each specific area with include an explanation of the problem and the solution so that participants can provide educated responses.

Eryn reiterated that there would be no presentation at the open house and that it would be an informal drop-in style event with various information stations. Eryn said that the project team was looking into holding the event at Keizer City Hall and she asked for input from the group about the possible location. Cathy said that she liked the location because there was lots of parking and no conflict with school events. SuAnn said that City Hall would give the event more stature. Rick thought it was a good way to introduce the new Keizer City Hall. Cathy said either the lobby or the meeting rooms would work. She said the lobby area is spacious and the couches/furniture could be moved. Cathy added that the lobby was easier to find than the meeting rooms and it is very welcoming. Pat said she went to a transit meeting at City Hall and thought she was lost going to the meeting room. Cathy suggested speaking to Kevin Watson about reserving the lobby.

Review draft newsletter –

Eryn asked for the group's feedback on the draft newsletter. She said that the goal was to share complex ideas as simply as possible.

Pat said she wasn't always finding a connection between the text and the map. She suggested changing the order of some things. She said she got confused about the colors and the phasing and asked if there was a correlation between the colors and the phasing. Eryn said that the newsletter would be printed in black and white and the maps at the Open House, based on today's discussion will be more specific.

Pat said that phase II was the most difficult to understand between the text and the map and that the box in the map is using different language than in the text.

SuAnn said that the map in the newsletter should be simplified, that there are too many boxes and that the large maps at the Open House should be more detailed. Eryn asked if consistency would make it less confusing. All agreed.

Eryn asked whether the language was too technical or too general. Pat said she would have her husband read it since he hasn't been involved in the project and see what he thinks. Eryn asked for any feedback on the newsletter to be sent to her by Monday, September 21.

Eryn asked Scott if there was anything we should be doing differently about notifying the tenants/owners at Keizer Station. Scott suggested contacting Target and Lowes directly because they were private ownership. He thought hand-delivering something would be the best.

Next Steps

Terry explained that the next SAC meeting was scheduled for October 27. The purpose of the meeting would be to debrief the Open House. He said the project team would bring the group back together after draft IAMP had been developed and ask for their feedback. Terry added that the meeting would likely be held during the first part of December or January to review the draft and collect feedback.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:40.