



**TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 26, 2019**

I. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS

A regular meeting of the Manitou Springs Transportation and Parking Board was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019, in the Council Chambers, 606 Manitou Avenue. Chairman Koerner called the meeting to order at 8:35am. The following were in attendance:

PRESENT: Chair BILL KOERNER
Vice Chair NEALE MINCH
Board Member JOY PORTER
Board Member VALERIE ROSENKRANTZ (arrived 8:41am; left 10:53am)
Board Member JON MATAS

ABSENT: Board Member ROLF JACOBSON (excused)

STAFF: Michelle Anthony, Senior Planner
Kim Johnson, Planning Director
Karen Berchtold, Senior Planner
Kevin Stevenson, SP+ Facility Manager
Dane Lyon, SP+ Senior Manager

GUESTS: Aaron Shultz, AmeriCorps Vista Volunteer for Chamber
Michael Barsotti, Metro District Board member
Lisa Quintana, Chamber Board Liaison
Jim Rees, URA Executive Director
Ted Ritschard, Kimley-Horn
Steven Chester, Kimley-Horn
Kyle McLaughlin, Kimley-Horn
David Chorepenning, owner 67 Waltham and 1107 Manitou Avenue

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Koerner asked the board to move Item 4 under Old Business to the first item under New Business on the agenda so that the Metro Board representative did not have to wait until after the Mobility Study presentation.

MOTION:

Board member Porter moved to move Item 4 under Old Business to Item 2, New Business before the Mobility Study presentation.

SECOND:

Board member Matas seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION:

There was no discussion.

VOTE:

Motion passed, 5-0.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ITEM 1. February 26, 2019

MOTION:

Board member Matas moved to approve the February meeting minutes as presented.

SECOND:

Board member Porter seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION:

There was no discussion.

VOTE:

Motion passed, 4-0 (Vice Chair Minch abstained as he was not present for the February meeting).

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA ITEMS

Board member Rosenkrantz mentioned that the bakery in the 1100 block of Manitou Avenue (Manitou Avenue RPP) wanted two, 15-minute parking spaces instead of the two, 2-hour spaces along his business frontage. SP+ Facility Manager Stevenson noted he would speak with the business owner and the Public Services Director about making this change.

There were no comments from members of the public.

V. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 2. Metropolitan Parking District Updates and City and Metro District IGA

Metropolitan Parking District Board member Barsotti stated the board was not currently concerned with the parking garage on the Wichita Lot and the current priority was fixing the bridge into that lot. He wasn't sure if the issue regarding the lot signage (Metro District wanted its logo on the sign) had been resolved and indicated he would email the Planning Consultant, Kyle Fenner regarding that issue. There were no more questions for Mr. Barsotti, who had no further report.

ITEM 3. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Manitou Springs Mobility Study – Kimley-Horn, Inc., Project Consultants

Ted Ritschard introduced the Kimley-Horn project team working on the Mobility Study:

Steve Chester – Public Outreach and Neighborhood Planning

Kyle McLaughlin – Transportation Planning Data Analysis

He noted the city-wide project grew out of the Hiawatha Gardens and Ruxton Functionality Study discussions. Mr. Ritschard stated Mobility was how people, not just cars, move around. He referenced the long and short term improvements and the community goals in PlanManitou, which were the starting point for this project, which would then refine those goals through the public process. Kimley-Horn was conducting stakeholder interviews over the next two days to get input on:

- What is important to the community; and
- How to improvement mobility and what the current frustrations are; and
- What does the community want to protect?

Chairman Koerner stated he was concerned about the study occurring at a time the Cog was not operating and asked how the consultant team was going to bridge the gap between current data and the additional traffic generated by the Cog. Mr. Ritschard indicated they planned to collect traffic data in April, which would be base-line off peak and use historic counts and data, and information from the Cog, to look at adjustments. He also noted they were working on pulling data using mobile devices that would tell them not only numbers but indicate movements within the community.

Board member Porter stated with the ongoing Manitou Avenue construction she did not feel collecting data in April would provide an accurate baseline. Mr. Ritschard noted the intention was to adjust using historic data.

Board member Porter asked about consideration of events. Board member Minch asked about data collection in July. Mr. Ritschard advised the counts to be taken in April would be on a Thursday through Saturday. They would take that information and develop an off-peak baseline and start working on solutions. They would need to do additional data collection and July would be a good time to do turn counts.

Board member Porter asked if they were aware of the back-up of traffic at Ruxton and Manitou Avenue when the Cog was operating. Ms. Anthony noted issues with the location of the crosswalks at the roundabout and asked if this was being considered. Mr. Ritschard stated he concurred there was an issue at this location.

Board member Rosenkrantz stated there was limited parking capacity and would the project advise where new capacity outside of the downtown should be and strategies to optimize all the parking pieces. Mr. McLaughlin stated they would be weighing construction of additional capacity, use of technology, and strategies for maximizing capacity.

Board member Porter noted citizens in the east end of Manitou Avenue felt like things were just dumped in that area and there was sensitivity to this. She stated the City consisted of more than just the downtown.

Board member Minch suggested the Wine Festival on June 1 might be a good time to collect some data as this is a mid-level event. He also offered to send the consultants data sets he had developed. Mr. McLaughlin noted they needed to obtain more data from SP+.

Board member Rosenkrantz stated Lovers Lane is a “sacred cow” and it should be a slow vehicle and pedestrian corridor.

Board member Porter noted the Incline was very active and a source of lots of issues. Discussion ensued about Colorado Springs’ trail counters on the Incline and the usage was down by about 50,000 hikers from previous years.

Board member Minch stated he would also send Mtn. Metro counts, which he had been tracking. Ms. Anthony noted she received a monthly report from Mtn. Metro, so she had that data as well and the daily counts for each month.

Mr. Chester asked the Board what members' priorities were at a higher level?

Board member Porter stated preserving neighborhoods and accommodating visitors – finding a balance.

Board member Rosenkrantz stated one of her priorities were RPPs to benefit neighborhoods. This was one place where issues got worked out and resolved.

Board member Matas stated he agreed with preserving neighborhoods and finding a commercial balance.

Board member Minch stated he felt a change to how the City communicates would result in significantly less congestion. He remarked the Manitou Avenue Shuttle was underutilized. He wanted to see the City best use what it has.

Board member Rosenkrantz stated the culture was fragmented – there are three websites that provide parking information and tools are needed to blend the three.

It was noted some congestion is just people rolling through town; creating more capacity would fill up and more people will come to town.

Board member Porter stated trees are important, as are environmental concerns in the community. Mr. Chester stated they would be meeting with the environmental workgroup during the stakeholder interviews.

Chairman Koerner noted the quality of life and residents being able to get around the community, to their homes, through town. The Cog floods Ruxton Avenue with vehicles all at once; that's different than a steady stream of vehicles over the course of the day.

Mr. Barsotti noted congestion was an issue for him, since he lives in the downtown. He sometimes had to take the highway to get around the downtown and back to get to his residence.

Mr. McLaughlin asked how the City should prioritize projects?

Board member Rosenkrantz suggested investing in appropriately-scaled transit and give buses the priority on the roads. Environmentally friendly transit.

Board member Minch noted the question was very different if they were talking \$100,000 or \$1 million dollars. There were different concerns based on the scale of the question.

Mr. Ritschard asked what the vision was for a well-functioning system?

Chairman Koerner stated his dream was a model like in Germany or S. America where the central street in town was pedestrian and traffic was on the periphery. Chairman Koerner stated everyone was focused on the auto, but people can walk or take transit.

Board member Porter stated people are in love with their cars and the City could not force people to exercise. People don't ride bikes because it's too dangerous. She stated the issue was how to keep a balance. Manitou Springs is a place to bring guests and we should be glad to be that. Wider sidewalks and remove barriers on sidewalks – more places to rest.

Board member Rosenkrantz suggested hydrogen fuel cell vehicles and other environmental efforts. Angled, back-in parking in areas where possible.

Board member Matas stated walking streets.

Board member Minch stated the City had 600,000-800,000 visitors each year. He felt it was inevitable that the City will need some external parking and shuttles and make better use of the assets they already have. He questioned how many persons were really going to change their behaviors.

Mr. Ritschard stated the City can build infrastructure and make use of existing assets. They make also make recommendations on policy, code, and organization changes. He asked how to leverage strengths in the existing organizations?

Chairman Koerner stated everyone needed to do a better job on solutions.

Mr. Ritschard asked what the relationship was between the TPB, the Metro District, and SP+.

Discussion ensued explaining that the TPB was appointed and advisory to the City Council. SP+ was the City's parking management vendor. The Metro District was separate from the City and was a special improvement district with its own board, which own two of the downtown parking lots. Discussion about the structure of the TPB only being advisory, and the coordination between two parking entities was slow and cumbersome in regard to who makes decisions and how information is funneled to decision makers.

David Chorepenning stated he hoped there was robust community engagement included in this project. Mr. Ritschard advised there was significant community input being sought.

Mr. Chorepenning stated that there needed to be a process for consensus in the community. Mr. McLaughlin stated consensus was not the correct word, but people needed to understand proposed solutions and why recommendations were made. Mr. Chorepenning stated a process should be provided where people feel heard and valued. Mr. Ritschard stated their goals were the same.

Kimley-Horn representatives reviewed the project schedule, noting the first public meeting on the project was planned for April 24 and another meeting would be held later in the year. Regular meetings would be held with the advisory committee throughout the project and the work would be final and published in January 2020.

Chairman Koerner stated his concern that congestion abatement isn't mentioned in the project scope. Mr. Ritschard stated they were looking at vehicle-based congestion and would make recommendations regarding this.

The project team thanked the board for their time and left to go to another stakeholder meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

ITEM 4. Parking Management/Financial Report and Review/Recommend Revised 2019 SP+ Work Plan
Mr. Stevenson provided an overview of the report in the Board's packets.

Board member Minch noted that January and February the previous year were unusually cold, so the milder weather this year may be why people are staying a little longer in town.

Discussion regarding the additional VMS board ensued. Mr. Stevenson noted a hitch was needed on the Parking Enforcement vehicle. Cost information was included in the monthly report. The board discussed the pros and cons of the two sizes, which were close in price.

Ms. Anthony suggested there were no funds budgeted for this purchase. Depending on the contract status, she did not assume SP+ was going to make a purchase and allow the City to make payments to them. She suggested the choice of a specific board and estimates be finalized and brought back to the TPB with payment recommendations.

Planning Director Johnson suggested the board not wait to make a recommendation to the Council regarding purchase of a VMS board.

MOTION:

Board member Rosenkrantz moved to recommend to City Council purchase of a VMS board as presented by the estimates at the meeting.

SECOND:

Board member Minch seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION:

It was specified the recommendation was for either board, with a demonstration of both to be arranged before purchase, but the TPB did not want to wait to work out other details.

VOTE:

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mr. Lyon stated he felt they could work within the operating expenses in the contract to effect this purchase.

Further discussion ensued. It was noted that neither of the VMS boards presented were web-enabled, so would have to be manually changed. A web-enabled board was likely more expensive, but that type of board was preferred. Mr. Stevenson advised he had not heard back from the vendor regarding pricing for the web-enabled boards, but had included the information he had in the packet to show he was working on this request.

The board agreed purchasing a board needed to wait so the cost estimates and information for web-enabled boards could be circulated and then the TPB would decide what to recommend to Council. So no recommendation was to be forwarded at this time.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

ITEM 5. Schedule TPB "Ride the Bus Day

Staff agreed to send out a "doodle poll" with choices during the next month for 6pm weekdays for the board to ride the shuttle bus as a group. The Board asked that Brian Vitulli from Mtn. Metro be included.

VIII. UPDATES

- Discussion on Downtown Resident Parking (1000 Block and Downtown in General) – this item was scheduled for the March TPB meeting, but moved to April due to Mobility Study discussion.
- Waltham Avenue RPP – Potentially @ May 2019 TPB Meeting. Facilitated neighborhood meeting scheduled for April 25.
- Barr Lot Fee Increase – City staff met with CSU representatives on 3/12 regarding management of the lot and they supported the increase. This and information on how the increase will be publicized (posting the Lot, notice to the media, posting or request posting on websites (including Incline Friends, and on Facebook) provided to the City Council for the April 2 meeting.
- Hiawatha Gardens Event Use Policy – Rescheduled for April 2 City Council Meeting with information regarding the application process and protection against event reselling the parking spaces provided by Staff.
- Electronic Sign Advising “No Cog Parking” – sign moved to Manitou Avenue and Old Mans Trail.
- Parking Wayfinding Signs – Majority installed; Public Services received wind-load evaluation of two large signs and custom mounting brackets needed for their installation are being manufactured.
- Pedestrian and Cycle Manitou (PACMan) Work Group – Aaron Schultz
- Ruxton Avenue Study – On Hold until after June 2019
- Crystal Park Road Task Force – Board Member Porter
- ParkManitou.com – SP+ and Staff met in February regarding website and discussed what information to host on the parking website and what to host on the City website (with some overlap and reciprocal links). Send comments and ideas regarding website to SP+ Facility Manager

Chairman Koerner stated the Cog Conditional Use Permit should address congestion. Planning Director Johnson indicated any approval would be conditioned on compliance with the findings and recommendations of the Mobility Study, which the Cog was a participant in.

Chairman Koerner stated he was concerned the Mobility Study did not contain the words “congestion mitigation and everyone needed to be clear that was part of the study and would be addressed. Ms. Johnson stated if he was concerned the scope was not clear then he needed to bring that up and keep bringing it up.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- RPP Task Force – Goal and Timeframe Discussion – April Regular Meeting
- Report on Potential Partnership with Private Parking Owners – April Meeting
- TPB Standard Operating Procedures – 2019 TBD after passage of Board/Commission Ordinance
- TPB Streamlining Decisions – Future Subcommittee Dates TBD 2019
- Rules for “Standing” Vehicles in RPPs and Other Areas - 2019
- RFP for Ticket Collection Services – 2019
- Vision and Policies for Future Transportation and Parking Decisions
- Discussion Regarding Parking Capacity: Collection and Evaluation of City-wide Data to Confirm/Quantify Seasonal, Year-Round, and/or Event Capacity Issues

X. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business before the Board, Chairman Koerner adjourned the meeting at 11:40am.

Submitted by Michelle Anthony, Senior Planner