

Larkspur Board meeting Minutes - February 14, 2022

Meeting begins: 6:00pm

Attendees: Diane Berry, Sue Sullivan, Morgan Schmidt, Molly McDowell, Kristin Wills, Makayla Oliver, Marty Decker, Katherine Rola, Kelsie Greer

Public Comment:

- Question from Michael Anderson about a flier received about rezoning of a piece of property-
Sue answered: if this land is potentially to be considered for the next expansion of the urban growth boundary, it has to be zoned as something other than exclusive farm use. Believe they are rezoning as rural residential. They are not planning on developing right away, just planning on changing it so the next time the urban growth boundary changes it will be eligible. The next phase of urban growth boundary change is probably at least 5 years out. That said we do not have specifics about it, this is just a generalization for the process. It's possible that this could be designated for affordable housing development but have not heard anything about it at this point.
- Written comment submitted by Tina Beyer- See attached below

Goals for 2022:

- Work on possible solutions for transportation safety issues on Pettigrew
- Connect with local businesses
- Neighborhood cleanup activity
- Figure out a way to have more contact and connection with the community.

New business:

- **City presentation on Wilson Avenue Corridor:** (Deedee Fraley, PM for this project). Design began in July 2020. When the General Obligation (GO) Bond passed in November, the city expanded the scope of the project to include 2nd street to 15th st. Focusing on roadway modernization. Coordinating with utilities to upgrade aging infrastructure along the corridor with the goal for bicycle and ped improvements, intersection capacity improvements, truck turning, and signal updates. In some places proposing protected bike lanes with actual barriers. Changing traffic patterns at 2nd street with 2nd street as a neighborhood greenway in the future.
 - Concept for 3rd and Wilson- fully protected bike lanes (currently no bicycle infrastructure). Truck aprons. Enhanced crossing where railroad crosses Wilson. Currently no safe facilities out there.
 - 9th and Wilson- one of the first to work on, hoping to get started within the next month or so.

- 15th and Wilson- working closely with future wildflower development, working to make it a 4 leg roundabout.
 - Q: How is it coming with the restaurant at NE corner of 3rd and Wilson? A: City is in the process of acquiring that property.
 - Q: Someone mentioned overhead lines, will any be buried? A: Lines from 2nd to railroad or Douglas, plan to underground those lines.
 - Q: Roundabout at 15th? A: Initially going to have it as a 3 leg roundabout because of constraints of the area. Now working with Wildflower development, the developer acquired the SW property to give enough room for a 4th leg of the roundabout. Q: idea of when construction could begin on this. A: The hope is to be in construction this summer, ideally open by next school year.
 - Kristin Question: Which one is being done first? A: Getting approval from Council for 9th and Wilson first. The intersection will be fully closed with detours. Q: With 15th and Wilson, will that be in conjunction with the Wildflower development? A: Wildflower is pretty far away from getting started, still have to do the submittal for their overall development. A: Will you be building the roundabout leg all the way to Wildcat drive? A: Will be building up the road for that intersection and will have a large retaining wall for the residents on the NE corner.
 - Sue: can confirm that Wildflower has not submitted their application yet. At least 1-1&1/2 years before construction would start.
 - Morgan Q: Any wisdom on neighbors concerns about their neighborhood streets being used as a way for people to get around the construction? A: Don't plan to cut off Centennial. Cut through traffic is going to happen, we will do our best to mitigate that (may use temporary speed bumps, though they do create a lot of noise). But will be keeping an eye on it, especially the first week of construction with the closures, likely will not do anything until folks figure it out. Main reroute will be on 3rd street. Q: approximately how long is the construction process at 9th and Wilson? A: Usually 10-12 weeks, depending on what they find underground in terms of utilities.
 - Anne Q: Baseball stadium, is there any way to put heat on the beautification of the stadium? A: That is owned by a private organization and we don't have any influence on the actual stadium. We are working with parks and rec on the outside area of the stadium.
- **Discussion of options for Pettigrew** (Sinclair Burr)- Sue: back in 2019, the city approved funds for the neighborhood street safety program. Through public outreach, they solicited feedback for safety improvements. Came up with 360 ideas across the city to improve street safety, mostly ped type issues. In the prioritization process there was an emphasis on funding smaller projects to get more done. We were asked to pick 2 in our neighborhood. At the time we recognized that Pettigrew was a serious issue but any remedy was too big for these funds. So we continue to be concerned about this corridor. The purpose of this discussion is to understand what we can advocate for with the potential for some success, short of a capital improvement project that would be 10 years out.

- **Sinclair:** Generally transportation projects are funded in 1 of 2 ways: GO bond or capital improvement. Pettigrew is an unlikely candidate for the GO Bond as these funds are already allocated. Capital improvement plan- this project is not on the near term list, however other programs are starting up: there is going to be a pedestrian master plan- not funded for construction yet but are starting to study what work is needed. Funding for this would likely come out of your utility fees. Will be reaching out to the neighborhoods for this process. Two other options include a local improvement project- paid for just by the residents. It would take a lot of time to get that done. Last option is what is already going on, which is development along that corridor. This is not a great option as it will take a long time for all those lots to redevelop. In the near term, start looking into the pedestrian program. Do have some funding for key routes in the GO bond, however there is a project on 27th street to get sidewalks and multimodal paths, Larkspur NA could advocate for Pettigrew instead.
- Sue- we are also the ones advocating for the 27th street so happy with that allocated funding. There is a fair amount of development on the stretch that will increase traffic, any possibility that as a piece of the requirements that they have? What can we do to reduce speed there if we can't advocate for sidewalks at this time. Sinclair A: Speed signs are generally installed by the transportation mobility department. Pretty sure that they are almost always installed temporarily. Sue: We have done that, they help while they are there, and then they are gone. Hoping for something more permanent. Sinclair A: As I understand it, we can't force developers to make those improvements beyond their frontage. The reason that those speed signs are temporary is that we find that traffic control devices lose effectiveness the more places that they are installed. Sue: When I was in Europe, there were towns that had those signs and they would randomly give you a smiley face sign if you were going the speed limit. Think that there are ways to make those things effective and would be interested in piloting something like that here.
- Diane: Q: Who do we contact to be a part of the ped program? A: Just kicking off, there will be an outreach program in the transportation mobility department. We will be reaching out when the time comes. Q: If you were in our position, where would you start? A: 1) with the ped program, 2) writing to the council.
- Debbie: Have had 3 people in the past year run off of the street and into our fence. Pictures sent to the gotransporation email. Q: Is there any chance little roundabouts get put in? A: Those are generally used where a local street connects to another local street. Too big of a corridor to implement those. Make more of a hazard. Don't like to use stop signs as traffic controlling devices because they cause accidents. Q: What about big wide speed bumps? A: Those are typically used on neighborhood greenways. Try to avoid those on collector streets because they impede emergency vehicles.
- Marty Q: On the speedbumps, how about the ones that are on Olney? A: Can't tell you the background, can look into it and get back to you. Q: Are all of the properties on pettigrew in the sewer? A: no, doing some septic to sewer projects

now, but not enough funding in this program to include sidewalks. LIDs take years to put in place, and would not be ready to fund any project until 2035.

- Molly: Q: Is there a way to change the lines? Make them solid instead of dashed to get people to slow down? A: Do like that idea, can check into a solid double yellow centerline.
- Kristin: Q: What about the sign coming down off the mountain on S Century, it has been there for a while. How much do they cost, if we can't rally the neighbors to purchase one?(A: from Morgan: cost is about \$12,000 for radar signs). Q: Is there not a minimum of accessibility on collector streets? A: Have to find someone to pay for improvements to meet those standards. Q: What is the speed limit on Pettigrew? Molly: 35mi per hour.
Kristin: Concerned that the developments going in are for families and they won't have safe access.

Old business:

Reports on relevant topics

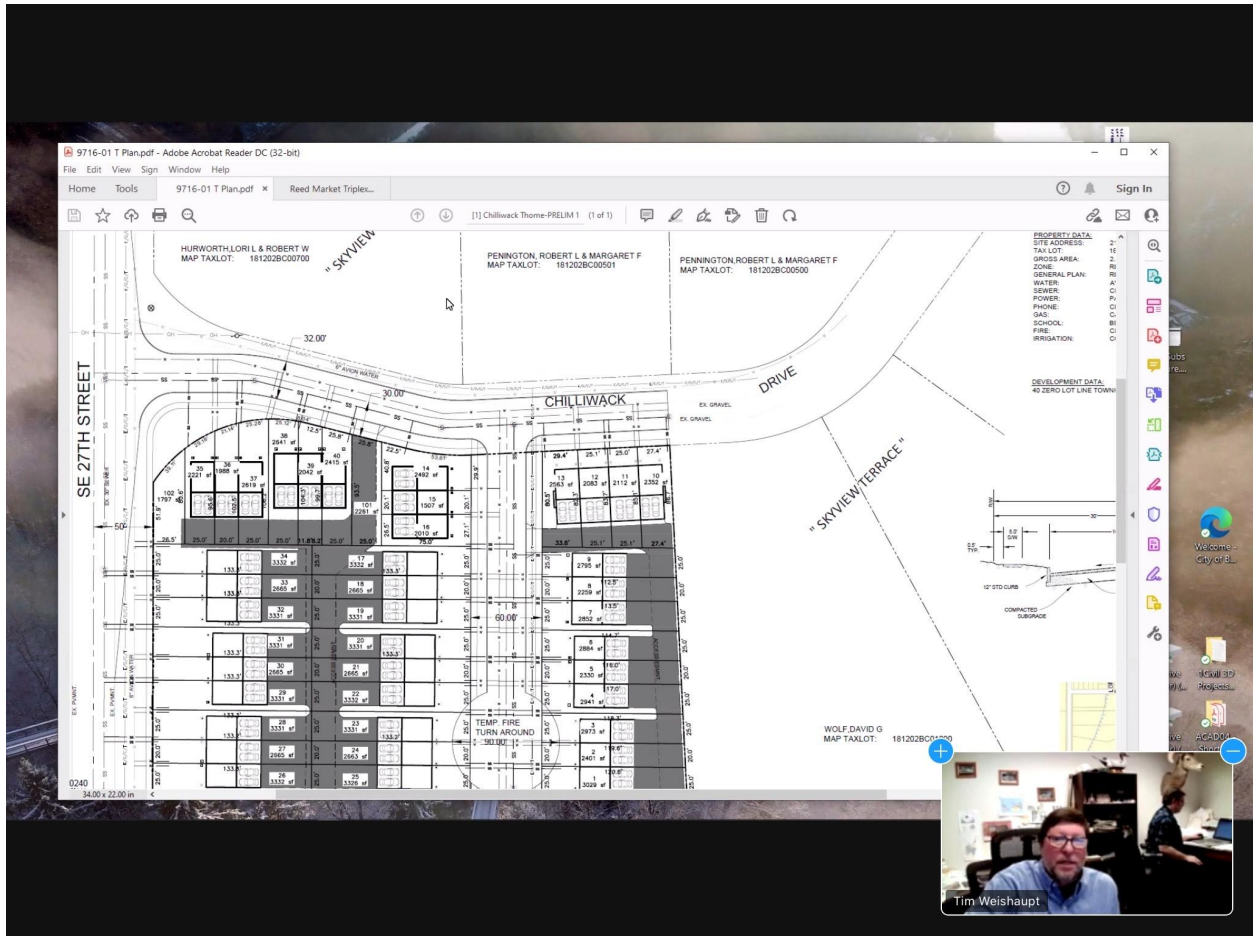
- **Minutes/Budget (Kelsie):** \$5651.82 available. No unpaid expenses.
 - Sue: Ariel was handling the squarespace fee, make sure that she gets reimbursed for that. We need someone to take on paying for it. Molly will take care of the bill. Sue will send a reminder for Ariel to submit for reimbursement.
- **NLA (Morgan):** Big news was a lot of conversation around the letter that went in for shelter code amendments, first piece is community engagement piece, to make sure communication lines are open. Second thing was wanting to have strict guidelines about distance from schools and parks. One of the council goals is to have a strategy to assess the NA's systems, aka barriers to engagement, etc. Mikayla will be joining next month to talk about this.
 - Sue reads Tiny Beyer's letter: **See attached below.** Takeaway is that we can work to improve our communication with the neighbors. Morgan: In regards to the potential for a homeless camp in Larkspur, there is nothing yet to comment on, and want to make sure that we hear the fears and interests of the neighbors while not stoking fear for something that has no plan yet. Sue: We continue to ask for information but have not received any.
- **Land Use (Kat/Sue):** Kat will be keeping Larkspur google calendar updated with important meetings and sent out through the blog.
 - **Neighborhood public meetings:**
 - February 1: a public meeting concerning a change of use of a property on Centennial in the light industrial zone. This property was previously used for a window installation business and will be converted to a fitness center

with no significant changes to the exterior. We were the only participants at the public meeting and I expect this to not be a controversial project.

- February 2: 181 NE Franklin - Bend Central District mixed use development. The developer is proposing 156 market rate apartments in a 5-story building with ground floor retail/restaurant. There were fewer than ten people in attendance. They are not seeking any code variances, so this project is likely to go through as proposed.
- February 8: 21229 Chilliwack Way: This was a neighborhood public meeting put on by Sun Country Engineering regarding a development at Chilliwack Way and 27th (the property just north of the plant nursery with the big chicken on 27th). There were five people in attendance if my Zoom count was correct. The developer is proposing to put in 40 townhomes in 13 structures on 2.97 acres of RL (low density residential) zoned property. Their claim is that this does not require a zoning change. Because it is not considered multifamily (it's zero lot line townhomes), there is also no requirement for open space such as a park (if this were considered multi-family a park or other open space would be required, amounting to 15% of the land area).

This is the first application we have seen which is utilizing the recent revisions to the code based on HB2001 (revisions designed to allow duplexes, triplexes and quadplexes on any lot to increase the availability of affordable housing). The code reads that they are allowed 1.1-4.0 units per gross acre. According to the new code, I guess that means that a quadplex of four townhomes is considered a unit. My calcs say they are slightly over that so I think they are assuming that rounding will come out in their favor.

So, assuming this goes through, the picture below shows what RL property might look like in the future, with no zoning change. I am expecting that this will be controversial once people realize the effect in some low density zoned neighborhoods.



- **Transportation (Diane):** We have been emailing with the city regarding concerns around Pettigrew, Molly identified particular areas for concerns along that corridor. Got a good response and were going to take a look at what they could do. Will continue to have contact with the mobility department and will make sure to engage with the pedestrian program when that comes available. Kristin will forward an email regarding a ped crossing at Reed Market. Nothing will be happening on Reed Market until the overpass is taken care of.
 - Sharon: Reed market and 27th is an issue- cars are making a right hand turn onto Reed Market, would love to see flashing lights to show that there are people on the road. Sue: They have fixed that once, and they are supposed to give a protected walkway, aka no green arrow until the pedestrian goes across. It is possible to do that in the programming of that light. A citizen service request or a call. Don't know if there is something to do about that but Janet would be the right one to talk to. Sharon: They have a capella place blocked to through traffic, when will that be reopened? Construction company has not shared any information. Everyone uses the road anyways. There is a project associated with that, a project number on the city website and there is a planner who would be the one to get a hold of. Go to Larkspur website, there is a list of how tos. There is an interactive map where you can click on the project area that will connect you to

the planner. Kat will contact Sharon as soon as there is more information.

- **Membership** (Kristin/Marty): Make sure that we have information to go out on the next newsletter. Somebody needs to monitor emails from the city to see if anything that would be of interest to the neighbors.
- **Communications** (Kristin): - need to figure out how to respond to people as inquiries come in. Sue: Generally forward it to the person that is handling the area of interest. Suggestion that we have a small event/ community activity that would be held in Larkspur park. How do we increase our presence and communication? Sue: I do know that parks and rec in the past has sponsored concerts in the park. Did a couple at centennial park. Hoping that they will bring that back.
- **Web page (Molly)**: Idea of communication and how do people learn about things? The website has a lot of potential for communication- could get updates from the pages that people are interested in. Dream big on ideas and we could potentially make it happen. Could start generating a punch list of ideas.

Continuing topics

- Neighborhood Cleanup/Bend beautification project (Emily Kotaich-community member)
 - Note: there is a City program for neighborhood cleanup through the Bend
 - Beautification project - see this link:<https://www.bendoregon.gov/community/volunteer-program/bend-beautification-program>- any group can get some safety things, and the city will come pick up the waste. Capped at 10 volunteers per time. If we wanted to do something more involved, that might be something that we might want to plan in conjunction with the neighborhood association. On May 21st there is a city-wide cleanup and noxious weed removal and native planting event.
 - Should we tie in some sort of business support for beautification? Gift coupon for local business?- raffling off some gift cards, having the breakdown party at Bevel, or something like that. Sue: Seems like a terrific idea- we have funds to help. We can send it out to the mailing list and include it in the newsletter. Idea of something ongoing is good. Could help coordinate from the already established city program. We could pay for flyers, etc. Kelsie will help.

Action items from the last meeting:

- Update bio information on web page - (done)
- Change Facebook admins (done)
- Conduct a website education session (Done)
- Facebook link on proposed code changes for homeless camps (done)
- Handoff of roles/emails: Complete.
- Spring general meeting: possible dates and topics:
 - Will pick some dates for in person meetings at the Larkspur Center, potentially on a Tuesday for the general meeting in May. Need to pick two topics to keep it to a

reasonable time. Give some thought for topics for the May meeting. Trying to get a good turn out. Molly will look at doing a hybrid live and virtual meeting- Mikayala could potentially help with that. Kristin- May meeting: do we ask the neighbors what they wanted on the agenda? Sue: We look at what is the current hot topic. Sometimes the city comes with something they want to share. Sue's thought is we could definitely put out a survey to the neighbors to see what they want. Sue is going to reach out to Rita Schenkelberg (our neighborhood City Council representative to see if we can connect in some way.

- List of businesses in the neighborhood - how can we connect? (in the works)

Other New business:

- Sue: There was a request to add our signature to a petition to solicit Federal money to help pay for pedestrian crossings to the Bend Central district. OK to add our name? The board had no issues with adding our name to the list of supporters.
- Mask mandates may be listed soon; should we consider Locals night with the board?- Will wait til for sure having a drop in cases.
- Will look into doing regular board meetings in person at Larkspur. We will wait until we see how mask mandates and local COVID cases evolve before deciding to resume in person meetings.

Meeting adjourned: 8:06

Attachment: Letter from Tina Beyer

Hello Susan,

How does the Larkspur neighborhood association (NA) collect residents' opinions on issues?

I have watched several NLA meetings, with Morgan Schmidt purporting to represent the views of Larkspur citizens, as the NLA representative from Larkspur. On the issue of managed homeless camps in neighborhoods, one of them currently proposed in Larkspur, several leaders of NA's for other areas (SW Bend, SE Bend) have asked questions and expressed concerns about the proposed camp in Larkspur. Not only has Morgan not expressed any concerns for her own neighborhood that I've seen, she has gone further and has stated that Larkspur supports the camp on 9th street. It appears to me she is substituting her own opinion for the views of Larkspur citizens, whom she is claiming to represent. Or is she representing the views of the Larkspur Neighborhood Association members, rather than its citizens?

I would like to see some transparency and answers as to whom Megan Schmidt is representing. I would also like to know whether the views of the neighborhood citizens are solicited by the Larkspur NA, how that is done, and if it isn't done, why isn't it done. Do you recommend citizens should start taking their own personal surveys of residents? Or does the Larkspur NA take the

very limited public input to its meetings and extrapolate or generalize from that? Either way, I think the Larkspur citizenry should be much better informed of what is being stated on their behalf, so they have an opportunity to weigh in. There was no information at all on the proposed homeless camp at last month's Larkspur NA meeting, so how can Morgan Schmidt say "Larkspur" is in support of it, and doesn't have any concerns? Or is she saying the Larkspur NA supports it? If so, why isn't Larkspur NA having a discussion with its citizens on the proposed camp in Larkspur? I am positive the residents have the same concerns raised by the other NAs regarding security and management, despite our representative to NLA not raising any at the last NLA meeting.

Will this issue be on the agenda of the next Larkspur NA meeting on 14 Feb, which is unfortunately timed the same day as the Planning Commission public comment meeting on shelter code amendments?

If you could please explain the NA's processes. Clarity would be appreciated.

Thank you,
Tina Beyer