

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION
April 19, 2022

City Commission Work Session
Civic Center, Gibson Room 212

Mayor Kelly presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:45 PM

CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Kelly, Susan Wolff, Joe McKenney, Eric Hinebauch, and Rick Tryon.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Greg Doyon and Deputy City Manager Chuck Anderson; City Attorney Jeff Hindoen and Deputy City Attorney David Dennis; Finance Director Melissa Kinzler; Planning and Community Development Director Craig Raymond and Senior Transportation Planner Andrew Finch; Fire Chief Jeremy Jones; Police Chief Jeff Newton; and, Deputy City Clerk Darcy Dea.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim McCormick, Great Falls Rescue Mission, reported that the Rescue Mission has been serving the homeless population in Great Falls, as well as 17 counties in Montana, for 59 years. The Rescue Mission has transitioned to not only serving homeless men, but women and families as well, and is exploring ways to continue to expand. In 2021, the Rescue Mission served over 1500 people, provided temporary shelter for 754 people and approximately 250 people per night. In a normal year, the Rescue Mission provides temporary shelter for 1100. Last year, 135 people, including 17 families, secured permanent housing in and around the City. The Rescue Mission collaborates with partnering agencies in the City to provide people the services they need; however, there are gaps in the services to the homeless. Mr. McCormick extended an invitation to the Commission to tour the Great Falls Rescue Mission.

Mayor Kelly responded that drawing attention to and learning as much as possible about what the Rescue Mission does is critical. He clarified that no City funds are being expended to the Great Falls Rescue Mission. He commented that the First United Methodist Church is trying to deal with the homeless issue and are well intentioned; however, it needs to be aware of the alternatives that the Rescue Mission provides. He suggested that Mr. McCormick contact the City Manager's office to coordinate a tour for the Commission.

Representative Lola Sheldon-Galloway, not a City resident, explained that she has been on the Fourth of July Parade Committee for 16 years and is concerned about safety. The parade is becoming unsafe because there are more people. The parade used to entertain the citizens of Great Falls; however, now the City is hosting people from the outside coming into the City for the Fourth of July Parade. One of the biggest concerns she has is tossing candy into the streets for children because of vehicles in the parade. Another dilemma is putting up cones and roping off areas so that legally there is a boundary line. She reported that a City ordinance prohibits throwing candy during a parade; however, only the police have authority to issue tickets, even though she is in charge of the parade. She requested that the Commission assist her with keeping the parade safe.

Mayor Kelly responded that the Commission would strive to assist Rep. Sheldon-Galloway with regard to her concerns.

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1. NORTH GREAT FALLS SUB-AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY.

Planning and Community Development Senior Transportation Planner Andrew Finch introduced Sanderson Stewart Project Manager D. J. Clark.

Mr. Clark reviewed and discussed the following PowerPoint:

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|  <p>North Great Falls Sub-Area Transportation Study</p> <p>City Commission – April 19, 2022</p>  |  <p>PROJECT PARTNERS</p>  <p>CONSULTANT TEAM:</p>  <p>SANDERSONSTEWART</p> |
|  <p>PROJECT BASIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Vision for safe and efficient transportation network- Study Objectives<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Relate transportation system to existing and future land uses and established plans2. Improve multi-modal network3. Focus on safety, efficiency, accessibility, cost, and context4. Compliance with Federal planning requirements  |  <p>STUDY AREA</p> <p>SUB-AREA PROJECT BOUNDARY</p>  <p>SANDERSONSTEWART</p> |

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PUBLIC PROCESS

- Public participation plan
- Project website and Facebook page
- Postcard
- Informational video
- Public meeting
- City Commission Presentation



EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Streets and intersections
- Traffic volumes/operations
- Crash history
- Public input



PUBLIC INPUT

- Connectivity & Congestion
 - Improved access to/from Eagle Crossing
 - Alternate east-west route from 6th to Bootlegger
 - Gaps in sidewalk – ADA ramps
 - Congestion at US 87 & Bootlegger
- Operations & Safety
 - Skyline Drive – sight distance, speeds
 - 36th Ave – speeds, backing out of driveways
 - Narrow streets with on-street parking



FUTURE CONDITIONS

- Anticipated land development/growth
- Street network improvements
- Travel demand/operations modeling
- Recommended street network

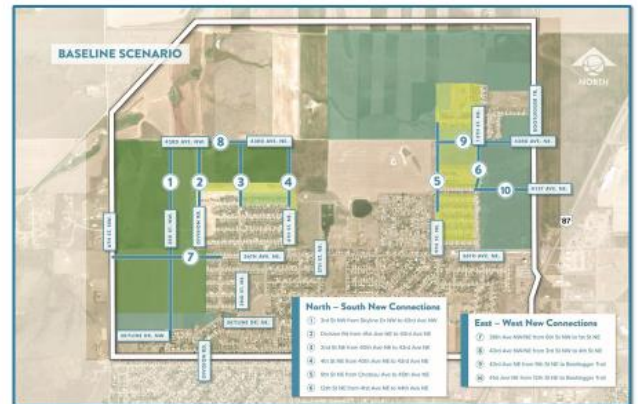


TRAFFIC MODELING

- Baseline Scenario (2040)
 - 10%-45% growth typical throughout
 - Heavy growth on 6th north of Skyline
 - Extension of 36th to 6th would limit demand along Skyline
- Traffic patterns/operations
 - LOS projected to still be excellent for all scenarios



STREET NETWORK (BASELINE)



SANDERSON STEWART

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| <h3 align="center">STREET NETWORK (RECOMMENDED)</h3>  <p>RECOMMENDED FUTURE NETWORK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed to be Constructed with Future Development Proposed to be Constructed by City Project Area <p>Future Network Changes/Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A: Project A: Intersect Corridor 30th Ave NW to 30th St NW B: Project B: Corridor 43rd Ave NE to 43rd St NE C: Project C: Corridor 43rd Ave NE between 4th St NE and 8th St NE D: Project D: Corridor 43rd Ave NE between Bootlegger Trail and US 87 E: Project E: Intersect Bootlegger Trail from US 87 <p>SANDERSONSTEWART</p> | <h3 align="center">IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS</h3> <p>- Safety Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intersection Traffic Control/Sight Distance Division Road Intersections  <p>SANDERSON SANDERSON DKS GreatWest</p> <p align="right">CITY OF GREAT FALLS MONTANA MPO MDTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p> |
| <h3 align="center">IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS</h3> <p>- Safety Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corridor Improvements 32nd Ave/NE 9th St/Skyline Dr NE  <p>SANDERSON SANDERSON DKS GreatWest</p> <p align="right">CITY OF GREAT FALLS MONTANA MPO MDTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p> | <h3 align="center">IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS</h3> <p>- Connectivity Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 43rd Avenue Extensions 6th Street NW Reconstruction 2nd Street NE Functional Classification US 87/Bootlegger Trail Intersection  <p>SANDERSON SANDERSON DKS GreatWest</p> <p align="right">CITY OF GREAT FALLS MONTANA MPO MDTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p> |
| <h3 align="center">IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS</h3> <p>- Bike-Ped Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sidewalks/Multi-Use Trails Shared-Lane Markings  <p>SANDERSON SANDERSON DKS GreatWest</p> <p align="right">CITY OF GREAT FALLS MONTANA MPO MDTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p> | <h3 align="center">PROJECT FUNDING</h3> <p>- Case Studies</p> <p>- Funding Alternatives</p> <p>- Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Improvement Districts for projects that benefit primarily locals CMAQ funding for bike and ped projects Impact fees/off-site improvement requirements for development Project prioritization plan/updates Specialized consultation <p>SANDERSON SANDERSON DKS GreatWest</p> <p align="right">CITY OF GREAT FALLS MONTANA MPO MDTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p> |

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|  <p style="text-align: center;">QUESTIONS?</p> <p>CONTACT INFORMATION: D.J. Clark, Project Manager Sanderson Stewart (406) 869-3358 dclark@sandersonstewart.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> | |
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City Manager Doyon inquired if there was any indication from the state that it would help some of the issues with US 87/Bootlegger Trail Intersection.

Senior Transportation Planner Finch responded that he has had discussions with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) about the dysfunctionality of US 87/Bootlegger, as well as the entire corridor leading up to that area.

Mayor Kelly inquired about the City's responsibility to other municipalities with regard to transportation issues.

Senior Transportation Planner Finch responded that there is a long range transportation planning process in which the City, County and State all have authority to discuss transportation issues.

Mayor Kelly inquired about how to get the Great Falls Transit District (GFTD) to provide public transportation to certain areas in the community.

Senior Transportation Planner Finch responded that the first step would be to identify a need or deficiency and update the Long Range Transportation Plan. The GFTD's boundary has not grown or expanded within the City; however, the GFTD has the ability to serve outside of its assessment area.

Commissioner Wolff reported that there is no transit service for people from the Great Falls Pre-Release to get to potential companies for employment and she expressed support of the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Commissioner McKenney received clarification that areas along Highway 87/Bootlegger Trail could potentially serve a need for neighborhood commercial development.

Commissioner Tryon received clarification that Neighborhood Council 3 was not specifically contacted about the impact that the proposed recommendations could have on its neighborhood; however, there was a tremendous amount of positive feedback. Commissioner Tryon recommended that Mr. Clark

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engage Neighborhood Council 3 before proceeding too far into the process.

Senior Transportation Planner Finch responded that a Long Range Transportation Plan update would assist with strongly engaging Neighborhood Councils.

2. PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE.

City Manager Doyon explained that the Commission expressed interest in having a more comprehensive analysis done of crime trends and current resourcing in the City and has requested a proposal from a firm that specializes in valuating and best management practices primarily in law enforcement. The information may assist with development of a Public Safety Levy. Once engaged, the study will require approximately 135 days to complete and the base cost for the study is \$56,500 plus expenses.

Manager Doyon requested that the Commission provide direction with regard to moving forward with the proposal, as well as with a Public Safety Levy.

DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

City Manager Greg Doyon reported that the May 3, 2022 work session will consist of a drug enforcement update from Stacy Zinn, DEA, as well as an overview of the TIF Program and Quarterly Downtown TIF update. There will be a Department Head Budget Roundtable via Zoom on April 26, 2022 and a Budget Work Session on May 9 and 10, 2022.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kelly adjourned the informal work session of April 19, 2022 at 6:45 p.m.