

Stakeholder Meeting #6 Minutes

19 November 2019 / 1 PM - 5 PM / Teton County Public Library

ATTENDEES

Nick Hines (Facilitator)
Chris Colligan (Greater Yellowstone Coalition)
Jack Koehler (Friends of Pathways)
Heather Overholser (Teton County)
Amy Ramage (Teton County)
David Hardie (River Hollow HOA)
Ross MacIntyre (River Hollow HOA)
Bill Schreiber (Jackson Hole Mountain Resort)
Melissa Turley (Teton Village Association ISD)
Gary Fralick (Wyoming Game and Fish)
Aly Courtemanch (Wyoming Game and Fish)
Darren Brugmann (Southern Teton Area Rapid Transit)
Lynne Whalen (Community Representative)
Bob Hammond (Wyoming Department of Transportation)
Tyler Sinclair (Town of Jackson)

Additional Attendees

Hank Doering (WYDOT Project Development)
Kelly Rounds (WYDOT Project Development)
Keith Compton (WYDOT D3 District Engineer)
Ted Wells (WYDOT D3 District Construction Engineer)
Stephanie Harsha (WYDOT D3 Public Relations Specialist)
Darin Kaufman (WYDOT D3 District Traffic Engineer)
Meg Mordahl (WYDOT NEPA Coordinator)
Marshall Newlin (WYDOT)
Ryan Shields (WYDOT Traffic)
Dustin Woods (FHWA)

AGENDA

Stakeholder Group Recommendations and Updates:

1. Stakeholder Group Recommendations and Updates Handout

Nick went through Stakeholder Group Recommendations and Updates handout. Group would like more information in the wildlife crossings section (discuss all options evaluated. County/NGOs are working on identifying a location for end treatments study. Fencing and placement of pathway is

still ongoing. County/NGOs need to discuss this further. Currently, jump outs are in the pathway easement area.

Other updates include - completed vs addressed, updating transit subgroup members, adding transit recommendations from K-H, changing some items to ongoing instead of completed.

It was stated that maintaining the levee access under the bridge is a 4(f) issue, as it provides access to BLM land, and needs to be mitigated by WYDOT. Per WYDOT, the levee does not appear to be a designated pathway, therefore it is not protected under Section 4(f). Group will send Nick information in order to coordinate with FHWA on the current easement the pathway sits on. Per WYDOT, the access road there is for maintenance of the levee and is being used for recreational purposes, even though that is not its designated use. Group would like the parking area to be paved and handicapped accessible. There may be a cost-sharing opportunity for parking improvements with the 'Snake River Club' and the County.

Action Items

- **WYDOT Env Ser - Update handout with changes**
- **WYDOT Env Ser - Further review into the levee area where people walk.**

New Business

1. Grading Plans Review

Hank went through Grading Plans. Not a lot has changed from the Draft Grading Plans. WYDOT was asked to see the future final contours so people could understand what it would look like, WYDOT will look into seeing if this is feasible to do.

Proposed deer ramps are shown in the plans, labeled DR. County still needs to work through deer fence locations in relation to the pathway. Group previously recommended a pathway outside of the deer fence, separated from the highway. An outside pathway NGO would like the pathway on the other side of the deer fence to avoid fencing on both sides of pathway (this would only occur on east and west ends of project). County was going to coordinate with NGOs and get an outcome to this.

Suggestion to put trash guards on culverts, specifically the one located just east of the intersection. WYDOT said they could do this.

Re-routing the creek was discussed. WYDOT stated this may affect existing wetlands and current hydrology, but will continue to review.

Keith Ohnmeis (landowner on Grading Plans pg. 19) is fine with the bike path on his property; however, he does not want deer fence blocking his view. WYDOT will continue to discuss this with him. He wants something more aesthetically pleasing.

WYDOT will seek concurrence from landowners at priority 1 crossing to ensure area is not used as a wildlife viewing area.

Group would like to have a transit subgroup meeting to discuss recommendations from the transit study (eight concepts, shoulder-running transit, HOV lanes, que jumps, etc.). Transit is a community goal and mentioned in the ITP. WYDOT and the County need to discuss what can be implemented. The transit group needs to convene before transit study is finalized (early December-webinar will work) and make recommendations to the stakeholder group, and then decision makers (Town and County). The Group would like the transit study to be expanded; however, it only includes the project area. The intent was to review transit options in the project limits and ensure transit can operate within the existing infrastructure. The current project does not limit any future transit options presented in the K-H transit report.

Group handed out a letter addressed to Keith from the Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce and Teton Village Association, requesting that WYDOT look at the entire corridor. WYDOT would like to start to address the corridor next year.

Group is concerned that the pathway easement will not be secured prior to project construction. Therefore the pathways group would like to shorten the four-lane section east of the bridge. WYDOT is looking into ending the project as soon as possible after Emily's pond.

Nick and Chris discussed a memo sent from Aly that provided an update on the moose collaring. An additional eight collars were added to monitor moose this winter. Some moose appear to use the area seasonally, while

others use it year-round. It's interesting that the river corridor isn't heavily used since it is prime habitat, possibly due to inaccessibility caused by the levee. Chris suggested putting in sand ramps to increase access for moose across the levee.

Group would like to meet before July 2020 and suggested March 2020.

Action Items

- **WYDOT Project Development - Determine if feasible to show final contours of the project.**
- **Teton County - Coordinate with pathway NGOs to determine which side of the fence the pathway will go on.**
- **WYDOT Environmental Services - looking into re-routing the creek.**
- **WYDOT - Schedule next transit meeting - Completed**
- **WYDOT - Schedule next stakeholder meeting March 2020.**

Project Milestones:

- ✓ Preliminary Plans issued - October 3, 2018
- ✓ Stakeholder Meeting (#1) - December 18, 2018
- ✓ Wildlife Subgroup Meeting (#1) - January 16, 2019
- ✓ Stakeholder Meeting (#2) - January 29, 2019
- ✓ First Public Meeting - February 21, 2019
- ✓ Stakeholder Meeting (#3) - April 24, 2019
- ✓ Wildlife Subgroup Meeting (#2)- April 25, 2019
- ✓ Wildlife Subgroup Meeting (#3) June 11, 2019
- ✓ Stakeholder Meeting (#4) - June 12, 2019
- ✓ Transit Subgroup Meeting (#1) - June 12, 2019
- ✓ Wildlife Subgroup Meeting (#4) - July 16, 2019
- ✓ Stakeholder Group Meeting (#5) - July 24, 2019.
- ✓ Need all Snake River Bridge recommendations by July 1, 2019
- ✓ Need all Wildlife recommendations by September 1, 2019
- ✓ Second Public Meeting (Transit) - October 17, 2019
- ✓ Grading Plans - November 4, 2019
- ✓ Stakeholder Meeting - November 19, 2019
- Public Meeting #3
- Right-of-way/Engineering Plans - expected July 2020
- Third Public Meeting - expected early 2020
- Stakeholder Meeting - expected July/August 2020

- ❑ Right-of-way/Engineering Plans - expected Oct 2020
- ❑ Final Plans - expected April 2021
- ❑ Project Letting late 2022 or early 2023
- ❑ Construction Spring 2023