



# CITY OF OREGON CITY

## CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION

### MINUTES

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Commission Chambers, Libke Public Safety Facility, 1234 Linn Ave, Oregon City  
Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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#### CONVENE WORK SESSION AND ROLL CALL

*Mayor McGriff called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.*

**PRESENT: 4 -** Commissioner Rocky Smith, Commissioner Adam Marl, Commissioner Mike Mitchell, Mayor Denyse McGriff

**EXCUSED: 1 -** Commissioner Frank O'Donnell

**STAFFERS: 7 -** City Manager Tony Konkol, Assistant City Recorder Alexandra Rains, City Recorder Jakob Wiley, Assistant City Recorder Evan Lee, Police Chief Shaun Davis, Senior Planner Christina Robertson-Gardiner, City Engineer Dayna Webb

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### 1. McLoughlin Boulevard Enhancements Project (CI 22-002) Update

*Dayna Webb, City Engineer, invited the Commissioners to reflect upon the McLoughlin Boulevard Enhancement Project designs presented in April, and to offer direction regarding their favored option.*

*Nick Gross, Engineer and Transportation Planner with Kittelson and Associates, noted that this was the fourth time presenting the topic to the City Commission. Along with Bridge Engineer Michael Roberts from HDR, Mr. Gross offered a presentation reviewing McLoughlin Boulevard Enhancements Project design options and feedback received regarding those options.*

*Christina Robertson-Gardiner, Senior Planner, observed that grant application deadlines would require a resolution of support for the project concept by the fall or winter. She added that she would keep the Commission apprised of specific grant deadlines. Commissioner Mitchell asked if the City could apply for the planning grant before the plan is adopted into the Transportation System Plan (TSP). Ms. Robertson-Gardiner clarified that an application can be begun with only a general resolution in favor of the project concept, but that the grant could not be awarded until the plan is formally adopted. She added that there would be a couple months between the initial submittal and the awarding of the grant, during which time plan details could be considered and formal adoption take place.*

*Commissioner Mitchell suggested designing the project in such a way that a connection to the Arch Bridge from the water-facing side of McLoughlin Boulevard could eventually be incorporated.*

*Commissioner Marl asked how the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) potential interest in putting a bicycle and pedestrian bridge between Oregon City and West Linn affects the McLoughlin Boulevard Enhancements Project plan options. Mr. Gross replied that the design presented would not preclude the addition of such a bridge, and that the design could tie into the new loop created by a pedestrian bridge. He also noted personnel overlap between the planning of both projects.*

*Mayor McGriff expressed concern about potential visual clutter in the Arch Bridge area from either the McLoughlin Boulevard Enhancements Project or ODOT's potential pedestrian bridge.*

Commissioner Smith expressed concern about perceived inconsistency between the Commission's hesitancy regarding a bicycle/pedestrian bridge across the river and support the McLoughlin Boulevard Enhancements Project's plans, as they amount to a bicycle/pedestrian bridge on one side of the river. He expressed opposition to the conventional viaduct option for aesthetic reasons.

Commissioner Mitchell asked if the vertical supports in the drawing of the long span design were to scale, noting that there is a building height restriction in the downtown area. Mr. Roberts replied that the vertical elements of the drawing were to scale and discussed engineering considerations that went into calculating the proper height and angle of the vertical supports. He noted that there are geometry and design options to reduce the visual size of the supports and added that the current conceptual view in blue makes the long span design appear to stand out more than it actually will.

Commissioner Smith asked whether the height limit for downtown would restrict the height of the supports, and if the City would need to alter those limits to accommodate the design. Ms. Robertson-Gardiner replied that the matter would be researched. Mayor McGriff suggested that the height limit is meant to apply to buildings, not transportation conveyances such as the project in question. Commissioner Mitchell suggested that the proposed design might be technically outside of downtown as it is situated between McLoughlin Avenue and the Willamette River.

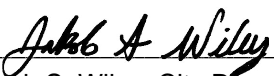
Ms. Robertson-Gardiner asked if the Commission wished to offer direction regarding streetscape design. The Commissioners had no specific directions to add at this time.

The long span design was the City Commission's favored option.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McGriff adjourned the meeting at 6:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jakob S. Wiley, City Recorder