

# GREENWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 Room 208, Municipal Building

## **ATTENDANCE**

#### **Present:**

Jeanie Shrednik | Pete Laybourn | Jo Butler | Nancy Olson | Bebe Molway | Eric Prior | Wes Bay | Vicky Bonds | Jim Walter | Jennifer Corso | Christopher Yaney | Brandon Gilchrist | Jason Sanchez | Molly Bennett | Bryce Sanchez

## Absent:

Ryan Shields | Dick Krahenbuhl | Jeff Fassett | Seth Ulvestad | Sam Payne

## **Approval of Minutes**

• Last month's minutes were reviewed and approved without changes.

## Maintenance Update

- Staff is keeping up with general maintenance, snow removal, and ice management.
- Vandalism has been an increasing issue.
- 3 full-time employees are dedicated to greenway maintenance (including Sweetgrass area), and LCCC handles part of the maintenance for its section.
- 7 new lights are being installed at Moran tunnel for improved consistency and easier future replacements.

## Engineering & Project Updates

## Allison Draw & Grant Updates

- The County is applying for \$5.7 million Build Grant for Allison Draw underpasses, aiming to improve stormwater drainage and usability.
- The future 6<sup>th</sup> Penny request will include \$1 million for the county to supplement.

#### Yellowstone Pedestrian Underpass

• The underpass has been flooded and frozen for months and is currently closed. The plan is to dredge the creek to prevent future flooding.

## **Greenway Project Updates**

## Sun Valley to Kiwanis Park Connector

- Still working on right-of-way issues to include potential property swaps with Union Pacific.
- Landowner resistance has stalled progress, and eminent domain was discussed as a last-resort option.
- Committee emphasized delaying eminent domain discussion until after upcoming elections to avoid political fallout.

# Southside Projects & New Connectors

- Focus shift: Committee agreed to prioritize southside connections for now, deferring Sun Valley work.
- Specific projects include:
  - o Fixing a neighborhood access point near I-80 and Parsley Bridge.
  - o Exploring small connectors near Arp Avenue.
  - Developer Ed Ernst will incorporate greenway paths into his Harmony Valley project and Greenway funds will be needed to complete the trail up to South High School at Cribbon.
  - The City traffic engineer is coordinating several Safe Routes to School improvements.

## Kiwanis Park Trails and Constructed Wetlands Project

Cooperative agreement finalized for \$112,900 in WDEQ funding for Kiwanis Park wetlands and gravel paths, construction for fall/winter 2025-26).

## Christensen Road, Commerce Circle to Campstool

Bids opening tomorrow at 2 pm

## Yellowstone Underpass 35% Design

Received 35% plans and cost estimate from Theena Engineering. The cost estimate is \$3.5 million with approximately \$250K going to repair the existing drainage structure.

#### Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Passed Planning Commission and will go to City Council in March.

## **MPO & Transportation Updates**

- West Crow Creek project is on hold due to consultant scheduling conflicts.
- Safe Routes to School Plan: Expanded to include 9 additional schools. Total cost: ~\$39,510 (shared by city & county).
- Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is being updated for 2050; key projects from Connect 2045 are under review.

## **School District Update**

- Trialing portable crosswalk signs at school zones to increase visibility.
- Signs are manually placed each morning and removed after school.

## **Greenway Foundation Updates**

- Spring into Green event set for June 7th—route includes College Drive underpass, ARP, and Sweetgrass.
- Volunteers needed for marshaling and signage.
- Thankful Thursday Fundraiser for the Greenway Foundation is scheduled for March 20th. Donations and auction items are being collected.

## **Spring Greenway Cleanup**

Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, May 18th