



## VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE #2 SUMMARY

**Date:** Friday, January 20, 2023

**To:** Chris Doty, Peter Russell, and Cody Smith, Deschutes County

**From:** Matt Kittelson, Julia Kuhn, and Cameron Thompson

**Project:** Deschutes County TSP Update

**Subject:** Virtual Open House #2

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To gather public feedback on the projects proposed for incorporation into the Transportation System Plan (TSP), the County hosted a “Virtual Open House” in December 2022. In total, 159 people provided written feedback. In addition to members of the public, the City of Redmond also issued a letter providing comments on the draft projects. A summary of the City’s comments and the County’s response is addressed in a separate memo.

County staff is using the feedback for incorporation into a draft TSP update that will be presented to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners for review and adoption in the Spring/Summer 2023. The remainder of this memo summarizes the primary themes and ideas presented in the feedback offered by the public. A detailed list of each comment received is included in Appendix A; the appendix also includes the County’s response to each comment.

### Virtual Open House Format

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The Virtual Open House included maps and written descriptions of each of the proposed projects, organized by type. Interactive maps of where users could see the extent, a written description, a proposed priority for completion, and planning level cost estimates were provided for the following project categories: County Intersection Projects, County Roadway Projects, Functional Classifications, State Roadway Projects, Sidewalk Projects, Bicycle Facilities, Regional and Recreational Bicycle Connections, Transportation Safety Action Plan, and Federal Land Access Program Projects. The website also included a link to the technical memorandum in which more detail was provided for each project and how they were identified by category and priority.

## Summary of the Feedback

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Participants were encouraged to provide feedback via a comment form at the bottom of the website. The feedback form provided the opportunity for the community to describe what elements of a project they liked or disliked. The general themes are identified below with the number in parentheses indicating the frequency in which people commented on a specific project.

No specific feedback was provided on the Functional Classifications, Transportation Safety Action Plan, or Federal Land Access Program (FLAP) projects. The remainder of this memo addresses feedback on the other five categories.

### County Intersection Projects

Comments received on the intersection projects (CI) are summarized below.

#### *CI-11: Venture Ln/S Century Dr*

- Project should be a higher priority (3)
- The roundabout should be safe for bikes/pedestrians (3)

#### *CI-2: Spring River Road/S Century Dr*

- Support the project (2)

#### *CI-5: Day Rd/Burgess Rd Signal*

- Would like to see a longer right-turn lane heading west on Burgess (1)

#### *CI-17: Cinder Butte Rd/Baker Rd Intersection Improvements*

- Support making the intersection safer (1)

#### *Deschutes Market Rd/Hamehook Rd Roundabout*

- Support the project (1)

### County Roadway Projects

Comments received on the roadway projects (CC) are summarized below.

#### *CC-7: Sunrise Blvd Improvements*

- Support the project (12)
- Support changes that improve pedestrian and vehicle safety (8)
- Improved road surface will help to serve the increase in traffic that has occurred on this road over the last few years (9)
- Helps to address pavement conditions (8) as well as to decrease the dust (7)
- Move project from medium to high priority (10)
- Combine project with Burgess Road pavement improvement project from Sunrise Blvd to South Century Dr (2)

- Add traffic control/speed bumps to keep speeds down (1)

*CC-31: Bear Creek Rd*

- Support the project (1)
- Will help alleviate some of the traffic volumes from the future Stevens Ranch development (1)
- Helps improve the Ward Rd and Dobbin Rd intersections (1)
- Improves the route for bicycles and pedestrians (1)
- Would like the project to be moved up in priority (1)
- Consider flattening the vertical curve at the Dobbin intersection to improve sight distance (1)

*CC-22: Foster Rd improvements*

- Would like to see as a higher priority (1)

*CC-18: 19<sup>th</sup> St Extension*

- Would like to see as a higher priority (1)

## **State Roadway Projects**

Comments received on the State roadway projects (S) are summarized below.

*S-1: US20/Cook Ave/O.B. Riley Rd Roundabout*

- Would rather intersection be reconstructed as a traffic signal than a roundabout (1)

*S-6: Deschutes River Woods South Interchange Project*

- Support the project (2)
- Don't support the project (3)
- Support enhanced safety resulting from more evacuation routes (2)
- Would like the project to be moved to high priority (1)
- Connect interchange to the High Desert Museum (1)
- Connect interchange to Comanche Ln (1)
- Add acceleration lanes on US 97 at the High Desert Museum instead of doing DRW Interchange (1)
- Concerned that this will increase traffic in the area (3)
- Duplicates nearby evacuation routes so is not necessary (3)
- Concern about effect of the project on area trails (2)
- Not needed because southbound traffic is served by Baker/Knott interchange (1)
- Concern about how dirt roads nearby connect (1)

*S-12: 97-Knott/Baker Interchange*

- Support the project (2)
- Would like to see as a higher priority (1)

### *S-3: Bend to Sunriver Multiuse Path*

- Would like to see as a higher priority (1)
- Adding a trailhead at Knott Rd would need adequate parking (1)
- Connect Bend trails to the multiuse path (1)

### *S-10: Turn Lane Realignment at US20/Pinehurst Rd*

- Support the project (1)
- As an interim solution, could put gravel on the unpaved shoulder for cars to make right turns from (1)

### *S-8: US97/Quarry Rd Interchange*

- Would like to see as a higher priority (1)
- Maximizes economic development opportunities around the interchange (1)

### *US97/Paulina-East Lake Rd*

- Would like to see longer turn lanes for large RVs/trucks (1)
- Would like this to be included in the TSP update (1)

## **Sidewalk Projects**

Comments received on the pedestrian projects (BP) are summarized below. In general, four people expressed support for more facilities for people walking in the County. The Southwest Bend Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge is the only pedestrian-focused project in which comments were received.

### *Southwest Bend Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge*

- Support the project (64)
- Project promotes walking and biking and reduces vehicle travel (40)
- Project provides a needed connection to the DRW trail systems (20)
- Project supports underserved neighborhoods (15)
- Build the bridge opposite the Lava Island trailhead instead (1)
- Include a vehicle connection too (1)
- Any bridge over the Deschutes River upstream from Bend is prohibited (1)

## Bicycle Facilities, Regional and Recreational Bicycle Connections

Comments received on the bicycle categories are summarized below. In general, five (5) people expressed support for more facilities for people riding in the County. The specific projects that were commented on are addressed below.

### *Sisters to Black Butte Ranch Bike Path*

- Support the project (3)
- Don't support the project (37)
- Project provides needed access to cycle routes and trails (1)
- Would reduce the need for driving (1)
- Supports Black Butte tourism (1)
- Provides a safer alternative to cycling on US20 (1)
- No new bicycle facilities are needed between Sisters and Black Butte Ranch (15)
- Project would have detrimental impacts on the environment (14)
- Project would have detrimental impacts on local wildlife (9)
- Project would increase trespassing on private property (21) and illegal camping (7)
- Project isn't needed as it duplicates the existing bike path on US20 between Sisters and Black Butte (6)
- Concerned about close proximity to homes (6)
- Increases crowding of the Black Butte Ranch trails (3)
- Project would add unnecessary administrative and maintenance costs for Black Butte Ranch homeowners (2)
- Not enough personnel to maintain and enforce (1)
- Move project location farther from US20 (1)
- Construct a protected bike lane along US20 instead (1)

### *Sunriver to Cascade Lakes Trailheads*

- Would like to see project as a higher priority (1)
- Would like to see more bike route signage, improved shoulder, and road striping (1)

### *Bend to Sunriver Multiuse Path*

- Would like to see project as a higher priority (1)

### *Holmes Rd Scenic Bikeway*

- Supports the bikeway because it would provide better shoulders for cyclists (1)

## Other General Comments

- Concern about increased traffic from new Stevens Ranch development and more changes to roadways and intersections are needed and should be included in the TSP update (1)
- County needs to include passenger train connections in the region and a connection to the rest of the state (2)
- Need to improve public transit options in the County (1)
- Feel unsafe using roundabouts (1)
- Would like improvements to higher volume roads such as US97 and East/West roads (1)
- Improve dirt roads in La Pine (1)
- Include electric vehicle (EV) charging stations (1)